Jammu & Kashmir District Profile

Gifted by
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Jammu;
11. 11. 998.

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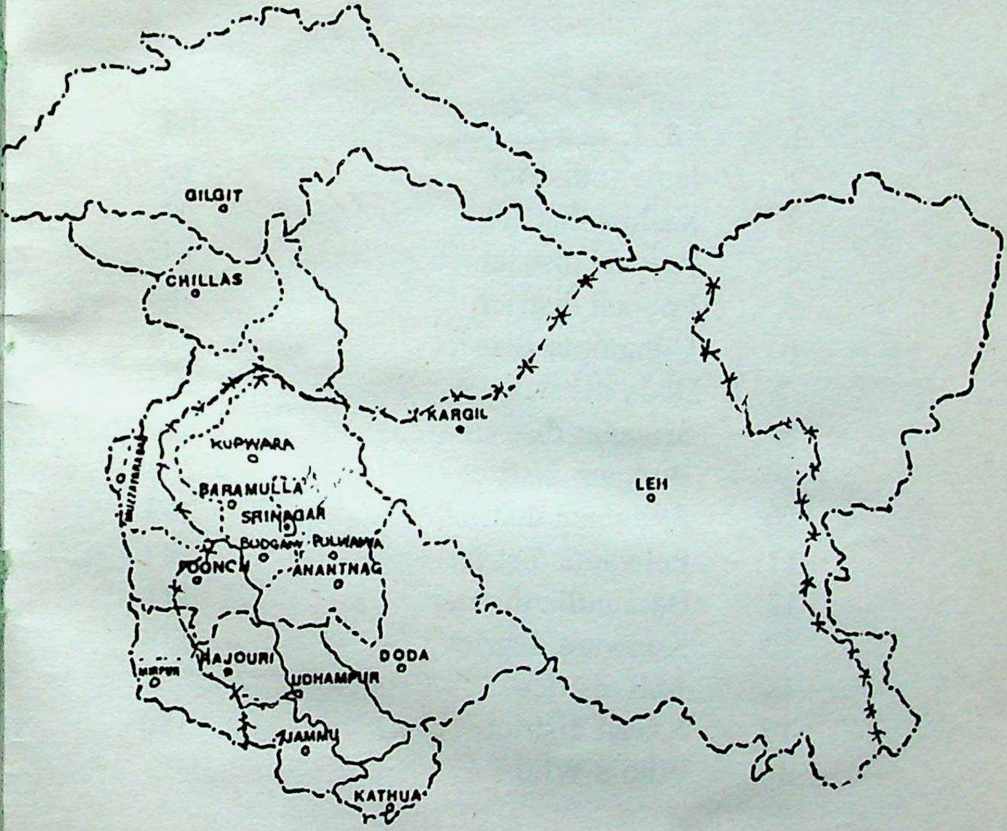
JAMMU AND KASHMIR


GILGIT
CHILLAS
MUZAFFARABAD
KUPWARA
BARAMULLA
SRINAGAR
BUDGAM
PULWAMA
POONCH
ANANTNAG
KARGIL
LEH
RAJOURI
MIRPUR
DODA
UDHAMPUR
JAMMU
KATHUA

DISTRICT PROFILES

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Foreword

In November 1995, the Department of Information took up a project of publishing profiles of districts of Jammu and Kashmir with a view to provide all the relevant information about each district including history, places of tourist interest, development scenario and Who's Who. We were able to publish all the 14 district profiles by October. 1996.

Since then, several significant developments have taken place in the State including return of the popular Government headed by Dr Farooq Abdullah. The development profile in each district has also undergone a discernible change.

Accordingly, the Department has decided to bring out revised profile of each district with added information. Earlier,while we published district profiles separately for each district, this time it is coming up in a consolidated book form with salient features of the State also.

We were encouraged to bring out revised edition of the profiles by the response our earlier profiles received from various quarters. I am sanguine that we would get the patronage again for this venture of ours.

The Jammu and Kashmir Profile is the outcome of hard work put in by a team of officers. I am conscious of the fact that but for their dedicated effort this publication would not have been possible. In this connection, special mention is made about the efforts of Mr S.K. Sharma, Dy. Director (now retired) and Mr C.L. Raina, Assistant Information Officer (Gr-I).

I sincerely hope that this publication would serve as a useful reference for everyone.

(K.B. Jandial)
Director of Information
J&K Government

Srinagar
August 15, 1998

JAMMU AND KASHMIR AT A GLANCE

REGIONS	3 (Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh)
DIVISIONS	2 (Jammu and Kashmir)
DISTRICTS	14
TEHSILS	59
DEVELOPMENT BLOCKS	119
EDUCATIONAL BLOCKS	198
BORDER BLOCKS	41
VILLAGES	6,758 (281 Un-inhabited)
PANCHAYATS	2,681
CAPITALS	2 (Jammu - Winter Capital Srinagar - Summer Capital)
CITIES & TOWNS	60
CIVIL AIRPORTS	3 (Srinagar, Jammu & Leh)
RAILHEAD	Jammu City
MUNICIPALITIES	3 (Jammu, Srinagar and Poonch)
LITERACY	42% (1991)
ARMY COMMAND	Udhampur
PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES	6 Lok Sabha 4 Rajya Sabha
LEG. ASSEMBLY SEATS	89 (25 seats reserved for area occupied by Pakistan)
LEG. COUNCIL	36 (proposed to be raised to 44 by 25th constitutional Amendment)

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ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS

DIVISION	DISTRICTS	TEHSILS
Kashmir	Srinagar	1. Srinagar – 1
		2. Ganderbal 2
		3. Kangan
	Budgam	1. Budgam – 3
		2. Beerwah
		3. Chadoora
	Anantnag	1. Anantnag – 4
		2. Kulgam – 5
		3. Dooru
		4. Pahalgam
		5. Bijbehara
	Pulwama	1. Pulwama – 6
		2. Tral
		3. Shopian – 7
		4. Pampore
	Baramulla	1. Baramulla – 8
		2. Uri
		3. Sopore
		4. Sonawari
		5. Tangmarg
		6. Bandipora – 9
		7. Pattan
		8. Gurez
	Kupwara	1. Kupwara – 10
		2. Handwara
		3. Karnah
	Leh	1. Leh
	Kargil	1. Kargil
		2. Zanskar

DIVISION	DISTRICTS	TEHSILS
Jammu	Jammu	1. Jammu
		2. R.S.Pura
		3. Samba
		4. Akhnoor
		5. Bishnah
	Udhampur	1. Udhampur
		2. Ramnagar
		3. Reasi
		4. Gool Gulabgarh
		5. Chenani
	Doda	1. Doda
		2. Kishtwar
		3. Ramban
		4. Bhadarwah
		5. Banihal
		6. Thathri
		7. Gandoh
	Kathua	1. Kathua
		2. Basohli
		3. Billawar
		4. Hiranagar
	Rajouri	1. Rajouri
		2. Nowshera
		3. Budhal
		4. Kalakote
		5. Sunderbani
		6. Thana Mandi
	Poonch	1. Poonch (Haveli)
		2. Mendhar
		3. Surankote

CC-0 A

S.NO.	DISTRICT	PANCHAYATS	RURAL DEV. BLOCKS	BORDER BLOCK
1.	Srinagar	93	Srinagar Ganderbal Lar Kangan	
2.	Budgam	196	Nagam Khag Chadoora Narbal B.K.Pora Khan Sahib Beerwah Budgam	Khag
3.	Anantnag	314	Achhabal Shahabad Shangas Kulgam D.H.Pora Qaimoh Brang Qazigund Khovripora Dachanpora	
4.	Pulwama	236	Tral Kakapora Keller Pulwama Pampore Shopian	

1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
5.	Baramulla	258	Baramulla Pattan Tangmarg Rohama Rafiabad Wagoora Uri Sumbal Boniyar Sopore Hajin Bandipora Zainageer Gurez Dangiwacha	Boniyar Gurez Tangmarg Baramulla Rohama Dangiwacha Uri
6.	Kupwara	224	Kupwara Sogam Trehgam Langate Kralpora Tangdhar Ramhal Rajwar	Tangdhar Kralpora Trehgam Kupwara Sogam Langate Rajwar Ramhal
7.	Leh	68	Leh Khaltsi Nobra Durbuk Nyoma	Khaltsi Nobra
8.	Kargil	65	Kargil Drass Shergol Shakerchiktan Sankoo	Drass Kargil Shakerchiktan

1	2	3	4	5
			Tseru Zanskar	
9.	Jammu	295	Dansal Bhalwal Satwari Purmandal Khour Akhnoor Bishnah R.S.Pura Marh Vijaypur Samba	R.S.Pura Bishnah Satwari Marh Akhnoor Khour Vijaypur Samba
10.	Kathua	183	Lohai-Malhar Bani Basohli Billawar Kathua Hiranagar Barnoti Ghagwal	Kathua Hiranagar Barnoti Ghagwal
11.	Poonch	115	Poonch Mandi Surankote Mendhar Balakote	Mendhar Balakote Poonch Mandi
12.	Rajouri	158	Darhal Manjakote Sunderbani Budhal Rajouri Nowshera Kalakote	Sunderbani Nowshera Manjakote Rajouri

1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
13.	Udhampur	214	Panchari Gool Ramnagar Ghordi Pouni Mahore Arnas Reasi Dudu Basantgarh Majalta Chenani	Udhampur
14.	Doda	262	Banihal Ukheral (Ramsoo) Paddar Marwah Ramban Thathri Wadwan Assar Bhagwah Inderwal Bhalesa Doda Kishtwar Bhadarwah	
	Total:	2681	119	41

AREA AND POPULATION

1. **AREA**		*2,22,236 sq. kms.
2. **POPULATION**	1951	32,53852
	1961	3560976
	1971	40,16632
	1981 (census)	59,87,389
	1991 (Projected)	**77,18,700

Details	**1981 Census**	**1991 Projected**
i. Male	31,64,660	40,14,100
ii. Female	28,22,729	37,04,600
a) Rural	47,26,986	58,79,300
b) Urban	12,60,403	18,39,400
a) Muslim	38,43,451	N/A
b) Non-Muslim	21,43,938	N/A

* (Includes 78,114 sq.kms. under illegal occupation of Pakistan and 5,180 sq.kms. illegally handed over by Pakistan to China and 37,555 sq. kms. under illegal occupation of China in Leh District.)

** (Since no census could be conducted in J&K, only figures projected by standing committee of experts set up by Government of India on population projections have been reflected.)

S.No.	District	Area (Sq.Kms)	Population 1981 (Census)	Population 1991 (Estimates)
1.	Anantnag	3,984	6,56,351	8,26,291
2.	Pulwama	1,398	4,04,078	5,16,441
3.	Srinagar	2,228	7,08,328	8,92,506
4.	Budgam	1,371	3,67,262	4,97,346
5.	Baramulla	4,588	6,70,142	8,61,214
6.	Kupwara	2,379	3,28,743	4,16,404
7.	Jammu	3,097	9,43,395	12,07,996
8.	Udhampur	4,550	4,53,636	6,02,807
9.	Doda	11,691	4,25,262	5,25,326
10.	Kathua	2,651	3,69,123	4,92,288
11.	Rajouri	2,630	3,02,500	4,17,333
12.	Poonch	1,674	2,24,197	2,92,207
13.	Kargil	14,036	65,992	81,067
14.	Leh	82,665	68,380	89,474

TOWNS AND VILLAGES

S.No.	District	Towns	Villages Inhabited	Un-Inhabited	Total
1.	Anantnag	8	626	19	645
2.	Pulwama	4	536	18	554
3.	Srinagar	3	168	07	175
4.	Budgam	1	475	21	496
5.	Baramulla	6	646	14	660
6.	Kupwara	2	365	04	369
7.	Leh	1	112	01	113
8.	Kargil	1	127	02	129
9.	Jammu	9	1054	138	1192
10.	Udhampur	6	618	06	624
11.	Doda	6	652	03	655

12.	Kathua	6	555	32	587
13.	Rajouri	4	375	06	381
14.	Poonch	1	168	10	178
	Total	**58***	**6,477**	**281**	**6,758**

***Includes two Cantonment Areas of Srinagar and Jammu.**

STATE PLANS

			Amount (Rs. in lakhs)	
S.No	**Plan**	**Period**	**Provision**	**Expenditure**
i)	Ist Plan	(1951-56)	1274.15	1151.77
ii)	2nd Plan	(1956-61)	3392.07	2594.75
iii)	3rd Plan	(1961-66)	7514.44	6185.09
iv)	Inter Plan	(1966-67 to 1968-69)	6170.01	5950.11
v)	4th Plan	(1969-74)	15840.00	16284.80
vi)	5th Plan	(1974-79)	36340.02	27854.71
vii)	Annual Plan	(1979-80)	11800.00	11972.71
viii)	6th Plan	(1980-85)	90000.00	91814.83
ix)	7th Plan	(1985-90)	140000.00	200623.31
x)	Inter Plan	(1990-91)	66480.00	52202.00
xi)	Inter Plan	(1991-92)	72300.00	58939.00
xii)	8th Plan	(1992-97)	400000.00	439000.00
xiii)	9th Plan	(1997-2002)	10,00000.00	-

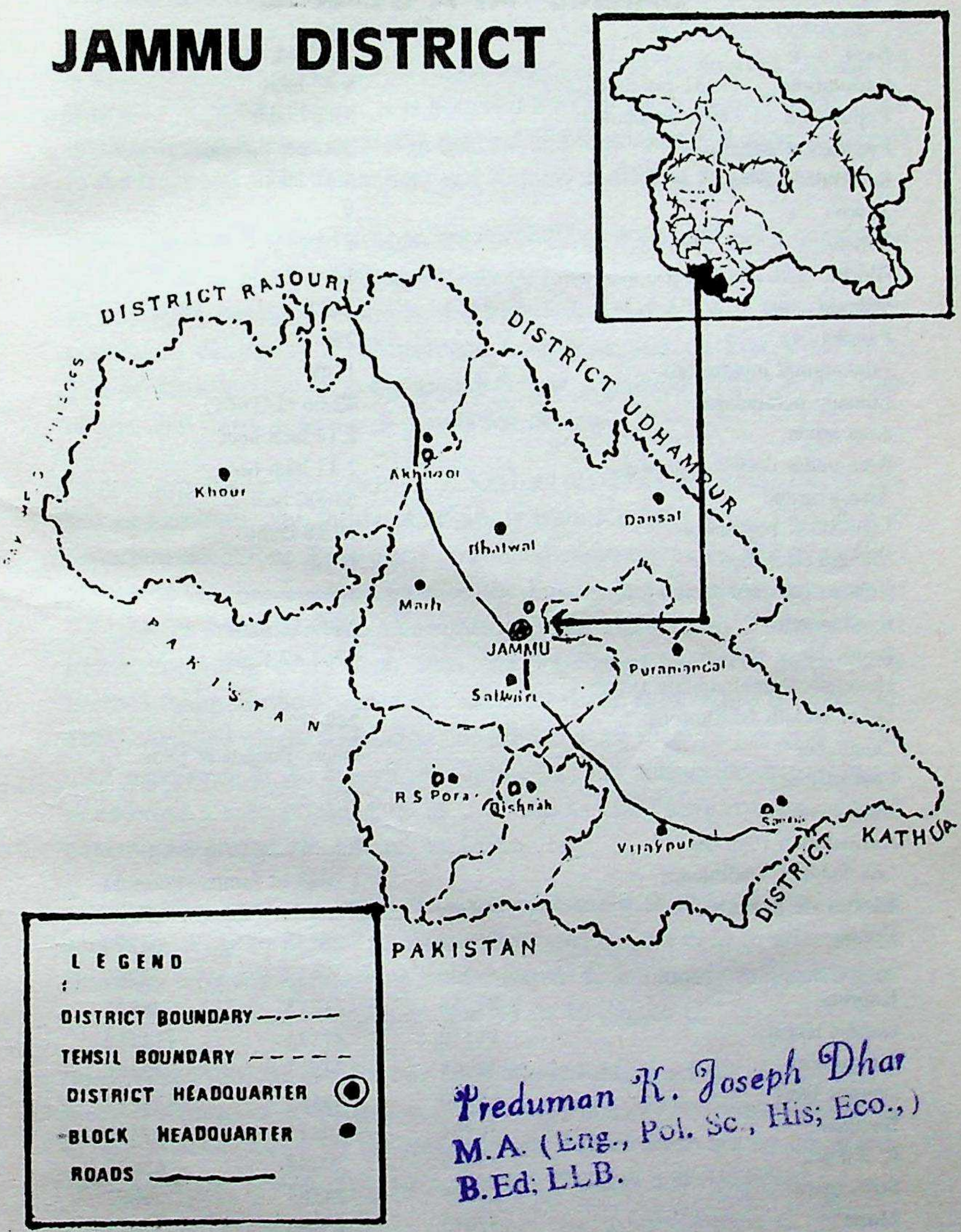
ANNUAL PLAN

S.NO.	**Year**	**Outlay**	**Expenditure. (Rs. in crore)**
1.	1992-93	820.00	616.58
2.	1993-94	880.00	653.75
3.	1994-95	950.00	845.68
4.	1995-96	1050.00	1023.71
5.	1996-97	1250.00	1250.00
6.	1997-98	1550.00	-
7.	1998-99	1550-00	20% step up

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

S.No.	District	Pry	Middle	High	Hr.	Coll.	Poly.	ITI
1.	Anantnag	953	322	89	17	2	-	2
2.	Pulwama	826	168	63	16	3	-	3
3.	Baramulla	1075	387	116	19	3	-	5
4.	Kupwara	659	175	55	12	2	-	2
5.	Srinagar	579	259	102	25	5	2	2
6.	Budgam	550	177	59	13	-	-	3
7.	Leh	196	51	34	2	1	-	1
8.	Kargil	263	51	34	2	1	-	1
9.	Jammu	1073	496	192	45	5	2	3
10.	Udhampur	1025	209	85	19	2	-	3
11.	Kathua	730	300	74	18	1	-	4
12.	Doda	1113	214	91	21	3	-	4
13.	Poonch	672	112	44	13	1	-	2
14.	Rajouri	769	183	84	15	1	-	2

JAMMU DISTRICT


DISTRICT RAJOURI
DISTRICT UDHAMPUR
Khour
Akhnoor
Bhalwal
Dansal
Marh
JAMMU
Puramandal
Satwari
P A K I S T A N
R S Pora
Bishnah
Vijaypur
Samba
DISTRICT KATHUA
PAKISTAN
LEGEND
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
TEHSIL BOUNDARY
DISTRICT HEADQUARTER
BLOCK HEADQUARTER
ROADS

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JAMMU AT A GLANCE

Area	3097 sq. kms.
Population (1981 census)	9.43 lakh
Population (1991 estimated)	13.07 lakh
Population density	390 per Sq.kms.
Scheduled castes	2.68 lakhs
Towns	9
Tehsils	5
Blocks	11
Villages	1192
Panchayats	295
Educational institutions.	1149
Literacy percentage	42.86 % (1981)
Area sown	2.13 lakh hect.
Area under double cropping.	1.11 lakh hect.
Area irrigated	53000 hect.
Live Stock population.	10.48 lakhs
Villages electrified.	1054
Villages provided drinking water	1054
Road length	1609.51 Kms.
Roads black topped	1264.87 Kms.
Hospitals.Sub-Hospitals and Other Health Institutions.	249
Languages	Dogri. Punjabi & Urdu
Post offices	223
Bank branches	188
Annual Plan 1997-98	Rs. 49.26 Crores
Lok Sabha Constituency	1 (part of Jammu-Poonch)

Electorate (1998)	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Samba	36643	28636	65279
Vijaypur	40536	37673	78209
Nagrota	27614	21213	48827
Gandhi Nagar	66316	47136	113452
Jammu East	38948	33517	72465
Jammu West	65530	55682	121212
Bishnah	36894	30435	67329
R. S. Pura	33939	29088	63027
Suchetgarh	25739	24263	50002
Marh	32013	25060	57073
Raipur Damana	35683	23567	59250
Akhnoor	35131	30060	65191
Total	**505350**	**412783**	**918136**

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Jammu district is named after its headquarters and State's winter capital, Jammu, popularly known as City of Temples. It is located between 74 degree - 24' and 75 degree-18', East longitude and 32 degree- 50' and 33 degree- 30' North latitude. It is bounded by Udhampur district in the north and north east, Kathua district in the east and south east, Pakistan (Sialkote) in the west and POK (Bhimber) and Rajouri district in the north west.

Jammu district is spread over an area of 3097 sq. kms. and has a population of 1307996 as per the estimates made in 1991. Its population was 943395 as per 1981 census comprising 491972 males and 451423 females. The population density of the district has risen from 305 sq. kms. in 1981 to 390 sq. kms. in 1991. It is the second largest populated district of the State and second large in terms of population density.

Jammu city had a population of 223361 as per 1981 and since then it has grown manifold. The influx of migrants from Kashmir since 1990 due to disturbed conditions there also contributed some increase. The population of Jammu city has been assessed by the Jammu Development Authority at 7.5 lakh for its Master Plan area spreading over 112 sq. kms. The municipal limits, spreading over 32 sq. kms. the population has been assessed at about 5 lakhs. In the absence of census 1991, no firm figure is available. The Scheduled Caste population constitutes more than 28 per cent of the total population of the district. According to 1981 census the district had a Scheduled Caste population of 2.68 lakhs. In February the central government granted B-2 status to Jammu city.

The literacy percentage in the district was assessed at 42.86 in 1981 which was highest in the State. The temperature varies from cold in winter with minimum temperature touching even 3 degree C in January to heatwave of June when the temperature goes upto 45 to 46 degree C.

Administratively the district has been divided into 5 tehsils, 11 blocks, 9 towns including one Municipality, 1192 villages and 295 Panchayats including 41 in command areas. Of the total villages, 138 of these are un-inhabited. The tehsils are Jammu, R.S. Pura, Samba, Bishnah and Akhnoor.

HISTORY

According to the most acceptable and popular legend, Jammu city was founded by Raja Jamboo Lochan in 14th Century BC as he found divine power here. During one of his huntings, he reached near a river (Tawi) where he saw a goat and a lion drinking water together at the same place. The King was impressed by harmony of the area and decided to set up a town which was named after him. With the passage of time, Jamboo came to be known as Jammu.

The city's name figures in the ancient book Mahabharata. Name of Jammu also is found in the memories of Timur. Excavations near Akhnoor provide evidence that Jammu was a part of Harappan civilization. Remains of Mauryan, Kushan and Gupta periods have also been found.

Jammu had a number of tiny principalities but kingdom of Jammu always occupied a leading place. Maldev and Ranjit Dev were among the eminent rulers Ranjit Dev ruled this kingdom from 1723-1783. He brought 22 small Dogra chieftains under his control. It is said that during his time, Jammu City acquired a name in northern India as an important trading centre. His successors were weak,and engaged themselves in internecing warfare, and this ultimately brought Sikh regime to Jammu.

When Maharaja Ranjit Singh was faced with rebellion, he sent Gulab Singh, a scion of Dogra ruling family to control it. He was a descendant of Raja Ranjit Dev. Displaying enviable valours, he annexed whole of Jammu region to Sikh kindgom. After the death of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, his successors could not keep the kingdom intact and fell prey to palace intrigues, hastening its downfall. When its power was completely eroded after the III war, the victorious British India Govt. demanded an indemnity of Rs.1.50 crores. Since Sikh rulers were unable to pay this amount, Gulab Singh paid Rs. 75 lakhs and in exchange got territory of Kashmir and certain other areas under Treaty of Amritsar on March 16,1846. Thus Gulab Singh integrated Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh regions in one administrative unit, with this the Dogra rule was established in the State.

After Maharaja Gulab Singh, Maharaja Ranbir Singh became the ruler in 1857 and ruled upto 1885. On his death his son Pratap Singh became the ruler and introduced many reforms. Maharaja Pratap Singh was succeeded by his nephew Maharaja Hari Singh in 1925 who signed the instrument of accession on October 26,1947 in favour of Indian Union. It was after the British paramountcy lapsed, J&K became an integral part of India. He abdicated his responsibilities on June 20,1949 and made his son Dr. Karan Singh as a Regent who was the last monarch (Head of State).

HISTORICAL PLACES AND MONUMENTS

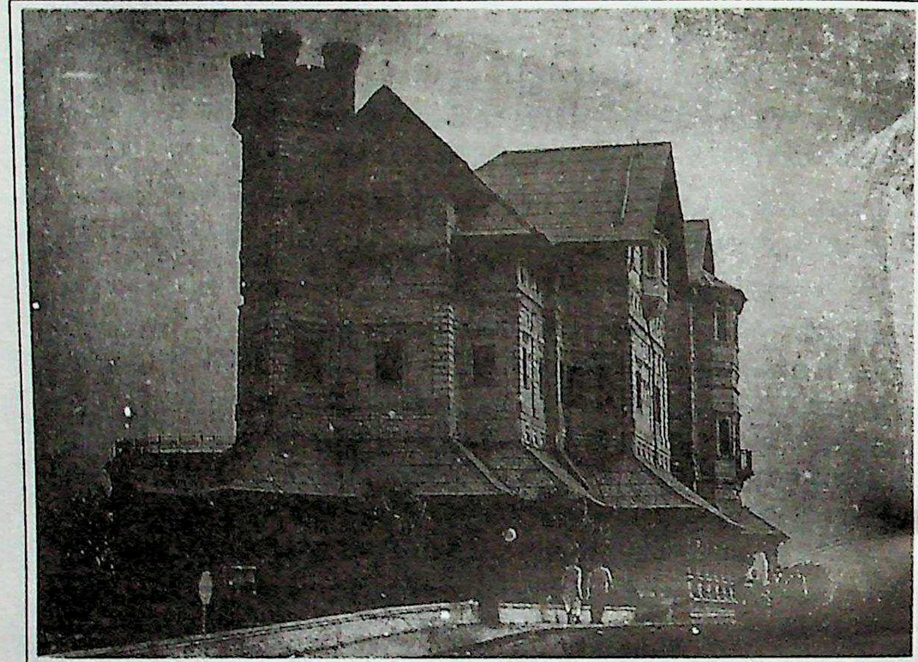
Bahu Fort: The fort enclosing a palace was originally built by Bahu Lochan the ruler of the Bahu city. Last of all it was re-built by Maharaja Gulab Singh. It was garrisoned by dogra army. It is also renowned for historical temple of Goddess Mahakali popularly known as Bawe-Wali Mata.

The fort over looks the river Tawi flowing pacidily down the Jammu city. The idyllic beauty of Jammu city captivates a man when seen from the fort.

Mubarak Mandi Complex: The complex which is presently housing over 76 government offices and courts stands as a valuable monument associated with earstwhile Dogra monarcy. Once it was a beautiful palace complex and over the years due to non proper maintenance it has lost its grandeur and glory. The complex has a history as old as 150 years back. It was a royal residence of Dogra rulers. The location of these palaces was carefully selected for having a commanding view of the river Tawi on one side and the old city built on the hillock, on the other. The palaces are built as a group of buildings around the courtyard. Successive Dogra rulers have added to the complex in size and importance as the Dogra rulers kept on consolidating their influence over the region and the State. The buildings were used as the residences of the royal Dogra families. The complex has halls and gallaries which were used for official functions and public events. As the time passed, need was felt to have separate buildings to house full fledged royal Secretariat. These buildings were constructed around the large courtyard-cum-garden which ultimately became the venue of important events and royal audience for the common man.

Rani Charak Mahal: It is also located on river side, connected with Toshakhana on one side. This 4-storeyed palace of Rani Charak is decorated with pebbles. It has a decorated balcony and multifaceted Jharokhas. The INTACH has recommended that Mubarak Mandi conservation exercise should be completed within 5-10 years. The estimated cost of the exercise will be over Rs. 20 crores. It includes setting up of restaurants, exhibition and conference hall facilities, development of gardens and buildings and creation of new office complexes.

Amar Mahal Museum: It is a beautiful palace of red sand stone which stands amidst most picturesque horizons of Jammu. Beautiful green view of Shivalik hills on the North and river Tawi below down add to the grandeur of the building once the residential palace of Raja Amar Singh. The palace



Amar Mahal

has at present been converted into a museum and is looked after by Hari-Tara Charitable Trust.

The museum still has the golden throne on which Maharaja used to sit. The 120 kg pure gold sofa type throne has golden lions embedded to it. The sitting place is of velvet. The throne is placed in hexagonal room with a door opening towards the forest view of Shivalik hills and deep down Tawi river.

The Museum has a gallery of paintings known as the NAL DAMYANT. It has a library in which about 25,000 books on various subjects and disciplines have been preserved. The museum has a very beautiful and picturesque ground for recreation of the tourists. It is really one of the best spots in Jammu to be visited round the year.

Dogra Art Museum : It is presently located in the Pink Hall of Mubarak Mandi Complex. The museum was shifted from Gandhi Bhavan complex to this place in 1991.

The museum houses about 800 rare and exquisite paintings from different schools of paintings-viz. Basohli, Jammu and Kangra.

CC-0 [illegible] Funding by IKS MoE 2025 Grant

Gold painted bow and arrow of Mughal Emperor Shahjehan and a number of carpentry tools also make an important section of the museum. The museum also has hand written manuscripts of Shahnama and Sikandernama both in persian. There is also one stone plate on which Takri script has been inscribed.

Ziarat Baba Buddan Shah: Is located in the outskrits of Jammu city at a distance of about 8 kms towards the aerodrome at Satwari. This ziarat is very popular among all sections of society, and is being visited by large number of people througout the year.

Baba Buddan Shah was borne at Talwandi in Punjab, and it is said that another shrine of this Peer is located at Anandpur Sahib in Punjab. The real name of this Peer was Shamas-ud-din, Fard-i-Wahid, Imad-ul-Mulk Hazarat Baba Buddhan Shah. Earlier, it was an unknown grave untill the runway for Jammu aerodrome was constructed.

Ziarat Baba Roshan Shah Wali: In the beginning of 6th century an Arabian Faquir travelled Asian penninsula and came to Jammu to settle at a plateau outside the town in a dense forest. He was well built and possessed a towering personality. The exceptionally large grave built on the slope of Gumat speaks about his lofty personality. This Faquir is popularly known as 'Nau Gazia'. But his real name was Jalal-ud-Din Jamal Noorani Nakki Modani. It was in the time of Maharaja Ranbir Singh, the Dogra king, that a pacca Ziarat with a mosque was constructed. On every Thursday people in large number throng the Ziarat.

Ziarat Peer Mitha: In the heart of Jammu city there is a magnificent tomb alongwith a mosque. The Ziarat is popularly known as Peer Mitha Sahib. Even the locality around it is named after the Ziarat. Nobody knows the advent of this great peer who became popular among the masses as Pir Mitha as he accepted a pinch of sugar among the offerings.

Panch Peer: This dargah is situated at a little distance from the Maharaja's palace on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway. The place is known because of the residence of five peers, (holymen), who lived here and dedicated themselves to the meditation.

Dargah Garib Shah: This dargah is located at Samba. The Peer had immense spiritual powers and he is among in those Muslim saints who had a large number of devotees from all the faiths and religions. Garib Shah's Samadhi is looked after by the local Hindus.

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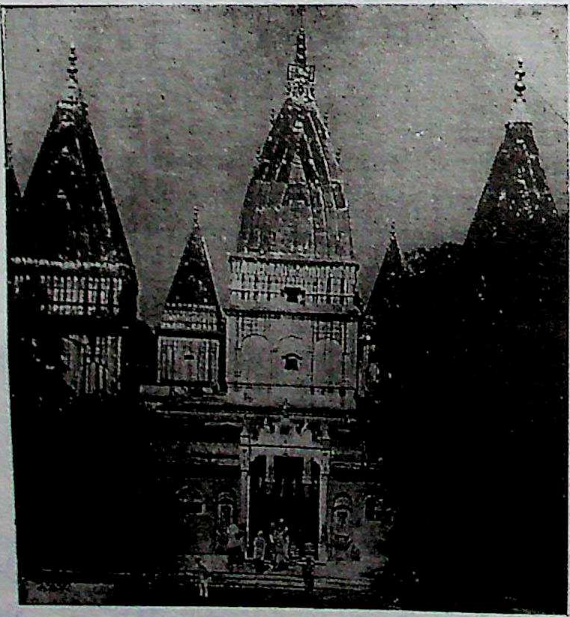
Peer Kho: This cave shrine of Lord Shiva also known as "Jamawant Cave" is said to be the oldest historic place in the Shivalik region. Located amidst igenous rocks and acacia jungle in North-east of Jammu city on the side of circular road above Tawi river, the history of the cave is said to be connected with epic-age.

Peer Kho presently constitutes of two caves located at a depth of about 20 to 30 ft. below the surface of the temple complex. After descending a flight of marbal steps the cave starts. On right side, the height of the tunnel cave is about 4.5 ft.to 5 ft. A normal person has to walk on bending while crossing the cave. The length of this portion is about 15 ft. and breadth about 3 ft. After this tunnel comes a broader cave with black coloured natural Shivalingam in the centre. This pentagonal cave is about 12 ft. in height and about 12 ft. wide.

Aap Shambhu Temple Sathrian: There is an another ancient Shiva temple situated at Sathrian in Roopnagar area of Jammu city, popularly known as Aap Shambu. The stone temple has self-made stone Lingam. According to a legend, in the times immemorial this entire place was an uninhabited jungle, the milky cows and buffaloes used to come to the Lingam after grazing and shed entire milk on the lingam. Startled by this phenomenon,



Raghunath Temple

the shephered attacked the Lingam with an axe resulting in breaking of a portion of it. Legend says that the egoist shephered found blood oozing out of lingum. He regretted and apologised and left the area once for all. Later, temple was constructed and the place became popular.

Raghunath Temple: The complex is the most splendid temple complex in northern India. It is located in the heart of Jammu city. The main commercial market of Jammu is named after the temple complex. It was Maharaja Gulab Singh himself who started the construction of temple complex in 1851 but it was inaugurated in 1857 by his son Ranbir Singh. The complex consists of 17 temples. How ever, it was named after the main temple of Lord Rama, Sita Mata and Lakshman as the Dogra dynasty is believed to be the descendant of Lord Rama. There is hardly any image of diety which is not represented in the temple complex.

Gadhadharji Temple: Maharaja Gulab Singh also constructed a Gadhadharji temple near his palace (Mubarak Mandi) soon after becoming the ruler of the State. The temple has two life size statues of Narayana and Lakshmi.

Ranbireshwar Temple: It is the biggest Shiva temple in North India. Got constructed by the Dogra rulers, this temple has the biggest Lingam of 7 ft. in black stone. In two big halls, there are 1.25 lakh "bona Lingam" brought from Narmadha, embedded in the platform. There are huge images of Ganesha and Kartikya and a Nandi bull in the verandh in the front and Bhairav image in the compound. On every Shivaratri, a big mela is held at the temple. The temple was got constructed by Maharaja Ranbir Singh whose statue has also be been installed in the temple premises.

Panchbakhtar Temple: This Shiva temple is also one of the oldest in the Jammu city.

Dhudhari Temple: It is also known as Dhudhadhari Barfani Ashram. This temple is situated at Shashtrinagr named after a saint popularly known as Dhudhadhari Baba, as he lived only on milk. The temple is the tallest temple in Jammu city.

Purmandal: It is about 40 km. from Jammu which has an important temple complex. Purmandal is commonly called as little Kashi. It is located at the bank of holy river Devika which is considered as holy and sacred as Ganges. The main temple is of Umapati and adjoining are the Shiva temples in a row in a captivating pattern.

A large number of people visit the shrine on Shivratri and Chaitra Chaudeshi.

Nagbani : Nagbani is an another historic place near Jammu city. There is an old temple of Nag Devta. People of the area present offerings including crops, cereals and milk to Nag Devta. Maharaja Hari Singh had his arsenal located at this place. Presently, Maharaja Hari Singh Agricultural Collegiate School is located at the place of royal arsenal.

Gurudawara Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji: The historic Gurudawara is situated in Upper Bazar near Mubarak Mandi complex. The Gurudawara has a three ft. long white coloured marble statue of Guru Nanak Dev Ji kept in a separate room. Maharaja Partap Singh is said to have installed the statue.

Samadhi Maharani Chand Kour: The Samadhi of Maharani Chand Kour is located below Gumat near Tawi and has its own history. Maharani Chand Kour was the wife of Sardar Kharak Singh, the eldest son of Maharaja Ranjit Singh who sat on the throne after the death of the Maharaja.

Gurdawara Ashram Digiana: The splendid Gurdawara complex is located in between Gandhi Nagar and Nanak Nagar localities of Jammu. The Gurdawara has a Guru Nanak Mission Hospital attached to it. Patients are provided free medical treatement.

Chichi Mata: It is near Samba and is being developed as a historic temple. Pilgrims go to visit the temple and seek blessings of the Goddess. It is also popularly known as Pehla darshan for Vaishno Devi pilgrims.

Ramnagar Rakh: It is a place for the lovers of wildlife. Rakh or jungle has been preserved for setting up of a wildlife sanctuary.

Chambyal is yet another interesting place in Ramgarh area in the Indo-Pak border where annual Mela is held on the first Tuesday of Ashard. The Dargah of Baba Dalip Singh popularly known as 'Chambyal' has a large number of devotees both from Pakistan and Indian sides. On the Mela day hundreds of devotees from Pakistan side join the deleberations of the Mela. Parshad in shape of Shakar and Sharbat is distributed among the devotees.

Churches: The city also has a number of historic churches. Of them, protestant church on Wazarat road is the oldest Church in the city of temples. Other Churches are Roman Catholic Church near Jewel Chowk and Presentation Church of Virgin Mary. Another Church is St. Mary Church on G.L.Dogra road.

PLACES OF TOURIST INTEREST

Surinsar Lake: This lake is of religious and historic importance. Situated nearly 45 kms from the city and 8 kms from the Mansar lake, Surinsar lake has small island in the middle of the lake. According to a popular legend origin of both these lakes dates back to Mahabharata period and Pandavas are said to have visited these lakes when they were in exile.

Tourists in large number throng these places during winter and summer. Boating can also be enjoyed in the lakes.

Jhajjar Kotli: Jhajjar Kotli is an another popular spot on Jammu-Srinagar highway. The place has recently been given a face lift. A Cafeteria, flowing ravine, recreational rooms,`grooves of trees, all surrounded by Shivaliks make it more attractive for organising picnics.

Bagh-e-Bahu: It is a worth visiting tourist spot. Situated under the famous Bahu fort, and on the hillock near Tawi river, Bagh-e-Bahu is laid on the pattern of Mughal gardens in Kashmir. An artificial lake for boating, green grassy lawns, flower-beds, fountains, a cafeteria scenic grandeur are attractions for the tourists.

Jeopota Temple In Akhnoor: This temple is situated just on the bank of Chenab river. The stone temple has a big sedimentary rock in it which was used as a throne. On this rock Maharaja Ranjit Singh had bestowed Raj Tilak to Gulab Singh.

Jhiri: It is another historic place in the district on Jammu-Akhnoor highway. Jhiri fair is held on Puran-Mashi in November every year. Thousands of peasants with their families from different parts of North India throng the place to commemorate the unique martyrdom of Bawa Jittoo who was a contemporary of Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji.

FOLK DANCES:

Jammuites have a rich cultural heritage. On special occasions, the people entertain themselves with a number of folk dances especially in the mountaineous pockets of the district. Some of the popular folk dances of Jammu are Kud, Dhaku, Phumanian, Chhajja, Bhangra, Jagrana, Dhamachada, Kikli, Geetrhu, Bhakhan, Harana, Yatra and Karkan.

DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO:

Jammu district, the second largest populated district of the State, spread over an area of 3097 sq.kms. annually gets sizeable funds for its speedy and allround development under single line dispensation since 1976.

During 1996-97, Rs.49.37 crores were spent on various welfare schemes and development works in Jammu district. In 1997-98 district has plan outlay of about Rs.59.42 crores. This includes Rs.10.00 crore under the Centrally sponsored schemes and RS.3.07 crore as unspent balance of the last year under these schemes.

District Development Board Meeting

District Plan 1997-98

S.No.	Sector	Outlay	Expenditure (Provisional)
		(Rs.in lakhs)	
1.	Agriculture and allied services	760.12	641.77
2.	Rural Development	585.83	1372.10
3.	Industries	130.99	126.74
4.	Communication	339.55	602.05
5.	Energy	200.00	198.85

6.	Social & General Services	2904.20	2477.47
7.	Others	6.25	6017
	Total:	**4926.94**	**5425.15**

AGRICULTURE

The district has the most fertile area of R.S.Pura and Bishnah which is known as rice bowl of the State. It produces the fine quality of Basmati rice. A separate Agriculture university is planned for Jammu which is likely to be headquartered at R.S.Pura belt.

An area of 1,66,172 hectares of land was covered 1996-97 under different high yielding varietis (HYV) crops and 11,970 qtls HYV seeds were distributed among the farmers which also included 1247 qtls of potato seed, 137 qtls. of cotton seed and 82 qtls. vegetable seed, 15,957 tonnes of chemical fertilizers were distributed among the farmers and 15,068 tonnes of food-grains were fumigated against various sideases.

The Agriculture Department brought an area of 47,537 hectares under plant protection measures and 1379 hectares under dry land development programme. The department also reclaimed 381 hectares of water logged area.

Mushroom production was recorded at 2500 qtls. and that of honey 167 qtls. as a result of the distribution of 623 bee-colonies and 830 bee-hives. An allocation of Rs.58.75 lakhs stands allocated in this sector for the current year (1997-98).

In soil conservation,124 hectares of area was levelled, 106 hectares covered under bench terracing and 125 hectares brought under gully plugging/check dam scheme, 3 harvesting tanks were also established besides raising 4 lakh saplings in the nurseries.

This all involved an expenditure of Rs.10.80 lakhs in soil conservation which has got an allocation of Rs.11.75 lakh this year.

Horticulture: A sum of Rs.44.70 lakh was spent last year on horticulture.

An allocation of Rs.46.25 lakh has been earmarked for 1997-98.

During 1996-97, against the target of 400 hectares, 313 hectares were covered under compact fruit plantation. 16,039 fruit plants were top-worked and 7331 hectares of orchard areas was treated against pests and diseases. The Community Canning Centre processed 22.42 tonnes of fruit and vegetable and conducted 226 mobile demonstrations of fruit and vegetable preservations.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

In the sector, 88,000 animals artificially inseminated, 30,000 live births were recorded and 27 lakh animals were vaccinated against various diseases. 4.05 lakh animals were given dosing and 19,000 castrated. 700 backyard poultry units were established and 21,000 poultry birds reared during 1996-97 and incurred an expenditure of Rs.46.92 lakhs.

For 1997-98, it had an allocation of Rs.81.91 lakh.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY

An amount of Rs.35.80 lakh has been allocated under the Sheep Husbandry sector for 1997-98. A sum of Rs.24.17 lakh was spent during 1996-97 and production of 2.58 lakh kgs. of wool and 14.90 lakh kgs mutton was recorded.

In addition, 1.64 lakh sheep/goats were treated and dosing was administered to 5.20 lakh sheep/goats. 430 rams were also distributed among the sheep rearers for the improvement of thier progeny.

FISHERIES

Rs. 6.76 lakhs were spent in 1996-97 whereas a sum of Rs.9.13 lakh had been fixed for 1997-98. During 1996-97, seed production of 10 lakh seedlings were registered besides the distribution of 7.75 lakh fisherlings and stocking of 93 water bodies.

FORESTS

Rs.9.46 lakhs were expended in 1996-97 in the forest sector. A sum of Rs.12.71 lakh had been provided in the 1997-98 plan. Similarly, the Social Forestry sector, which claimed an expenditure of RS.37.82 lakh has received an allocation of Rs.41 lakh for the year 1997-98.

On the physical side in the forest sector 31,000 plants were planted covering an area of 103 hectares. 15 kms. long roads were also constructed.

In the Social Forestry, 83,000 plants were planted and 3.60 lakh saplings were raised in the nurseries.

CO-OPERATIVES

The Cooperatives sector had an allocation of Rs.25.90 lakh for the 1997-98. An expenditure of Rs.21.43 lakh was incurred in 1996-97 and short-term loans amounting to Rs.324.98 lakh and medium-term loans for Rs.33.06 lakh were sanctioned and retail sale of 570 tonnes of fertilizers was registered in the Cooperatives sector.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

Being the winter capital,Jammu gets priority attention of the Government to improve road communication network. One of the prestigious road projects is Rs.32.57 crore Jammu Flyover, two phases of which have been completed and thrown open to traffic. Third and final phase is slated to be completed by 2000. About Rs.29 crores were spent on it. Another important project is the construction of second bridge over river Tawi connecting interior city with Bahu-Fort rakh. This 4-lane bridge is being constructed at a cost of Rs.11.65 crore and is slated to be completed by January,1999. On river Tawi work of the third bridge near the existing bridge is also being taken in hand. This 2-lane bridge will take the out-going traffic from the city. This project is likely to be completed by December.1999 at an estimated cost of Rs.8.77 crores.

In 1996-97, 46 schemes were completed and a total road length of 86.78 kms was constructed/upgraded against the target of 59.79 kms.

An amount of Rs.504.58 lakh was spent in 1996-97.

Funds to the tune of Rs.339.55 lakh had been provided for 1997-98.

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING

An allocation of 858.44 lakh had been made in the PHE sector for 1997-98. An expenditure of Rs.829.72 lakh was incurred during 1996-97 and work on 4 ongoing PHE schemes, 40 improvement and extension works and 3 tube-wells were completed besides installation of 31 hand-pumps. 45 hamlets were covered under drinking water in the district.

IRRIGATION

In this sector, 21 schemes were completed which also included rectification of 5 tube-wells and completion of 62 spot works. Against the target of 488 acres, new irrigation potential of 462 acres was achieved.

Rs.195.66 lakh were spent under Minor Irrigation in 1996-97 and Rs.198.50 lakh stood allocated for 1997-98.

POWER

The Power sector had an outlay of RS.200 lakh for 1997-98. It claimed an expenditure of Rs.199.29 lakhs during 1996-97. 68 hamlets against the target of 64 were electrified in 1996-97 and 267 pump sets were energised in the district.

Under the System Improvement Scheme, 2 Sub-stations of 33/11 KVA at Nandpur and Pargwal were commissioned.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP). An expenditure of Rs.85.59 lakh was incurred during 1996-97 under IRDP and 942 beneficiaries living below the poverty line were covered.

Under TRYSEM programme, 77 youth were trained and under the of Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA),380 DWCRA groyups were provided training. During 1996-97, 79 new DWCRA groups were formed.

Under IRDP, bank loans of Rs.108.74 lakh were distributed against the subsidy of Rs.41.55 lakh for establishing income generating units. A sum of Rs.69.53 lakh had been provided under IRDP for the year 1997-98.

JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJANA (JRY)

An amount of RS.112.54 lakh had been provided in the 1996-97 plan under JRY. Expenditure incurred during 1996-97 was of the order of Rs.270.22 lakh. As a result of this expenditure, 1661 works were completed which included 591 under JRY, 140 under Million Wells Scheme and 930 houses under Indira Awas Yojana. The employment generated was to the extend of 6.22 lakh mandays.

EMPLOYMENT ASSURANCE SCHEME (E.A.S)

An allocation of Rs.241.25 lakh had been made for the year 1997-98. Under EAS, 1357 works were taken in hand during 1996-97, out of which 724 were completed resulting in the generation of 11.27 lakh mandays and an amount of RS.477.48 lakh was spent under EAS.

C. D. AND PANCHAYATS

For the 1997-98 financial year, Rs.94.47 lakh had been provided in the plan. In 1996-97,Rs.152 lakhs were expended under the sector of Community Development and Panchayats.

RURAL SANITATION

Under the Rural Sanitation Programme, work in 33 villages was taken up during 1996-97. An expenditure of RS.84.68 lakh was incurred on the construction of 1679 household latrines, 21 institutional latrines, 323 cattle plat-forms, 228 soakage pits, 3 women sanitary complexes and 9.12 kms. of lanes and drains. Rs.32.50 lakhs had been provided in the 1997-98 plan.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT

During 1996-97 financial year, an expenditure of Rs.231.39 lakhs was incurred on urban development. In 1997-98 district plan allocation stood at Rs.74.78 lakh.

HEALTH

Two new hospitals 'Eye & Dental' have come up in Jammu as part of Associated Hospitals of Jammu Medical College. The 25-bedded Ayurvedic hospital is also being completed at Jammu at a cost of Rs.57 lakhs. Another major project taken up in Jammu is the construction of Regional Institute of Health and Family Welfare at Nagrota. It will involve a cost of Rs.1.86 crores. An amount of Rs.448.61 lakhs had been earmarked for 1997-98 under health sector.

On this sector, an expenditure of Rs.301.98 lakh was incurred during 1996-97. As regards physical achievements, 3 allopathic dispensaries were upgraded to Primary Health Centre level and 12 new medical sub-centres were opened in the district. 10,156 sterilization operations were also performed.

INDIAN SYSTEM OF MEDICINES

During 1996-97, the department of Indian System of Medicines treated 2.37 lakh outdoor patients and performed 124 sterilization operations. It also administered polio vaccine to 7105 and BCG to 562 children.

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EDUCATION

The education sector had an allocation of Rs.829.64 lakh for 1997-98. This sector claimed an expenditure of Rs.617.25 lakh during 1996-97.

Under the construction programme, work on 10 on-going primary school buildings, 10 middle schools and 2 high schools was completed besides repairs and renovation in 5 primary schools, 6 middle schools and 3 high schools.

Drinking water and toilet facilities were made available in 28 primary schools, 17 middle schools and 7 high schools.

Ten mixed primary schools were also opened and sixth class was added in 8 schools and 7th class in 7 schools.

Mid-day-meals were provided to 68,000 school children. Merit-cum-poverty scholarships were disbursed among 1134 students.

YOUTH SERVICES AND SPORTS

The sports budget for 1997-98 plan had been fixed at Rs.48.69 lakhs.

During the year 1996-97, an amount of Rs.19.94 lakhs was spent on the youth and sports activities.

The youth services and sports department organised 4900 youth camps/festivals against the target of 2500 in 1996-97. It also organised 1000 rural and indigenour sports for the students and developed play fields in 13 schools and provided sports equipment to 10 schools.

STATE SELF EMPLOYMENT

Under the scheme, 1050 cases were sponsored to the banks, out of which 331 cases were sanctioned in 1996-97.

Margin money to 342 cases and interest subsidy to 134 cases was disbursed and. Rs.50.11 lakh were spent in 1996-97. Under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) 1059 cases were sponsored to the banks. Of these, 407 cases were sanctioned by the banks for Rs.278.71 lakh and disbursement of bank loan to the tune of Rs.150.84 lakh was made in favour of 237 cases.

A sum of Rs.258.04 lakh had been allocated under self employment for 1997-98.

CC-0 A

SOCIAL WELFARE INCLUDING SC AND OTHER OBC

During 1996-97,an expenditure of Rs.171.74 lakh was incurred on providing old age pension to 20,625 persons under the Integrated Social Security Scheme.

37745 students belonging to Scheduled Castes and OBCs were provided pre-matric scholarships. Examination fee was re-imbursed in favour of 448 students and stipend was paid to 175 ITI trainees. Scholarship to 290 fofo land handicapped and prosthetic beneficiaries was given.

In 1997-98 district plan, Rs.131.75 lakh had been provided for the welfare of scheduled castes and OBCs and Rs.8.80 lakh for social welfare.

NATIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

Three schemes namely National Old Age Pension Schem,National Family Benefit Scheme and National Maternity benefit schemes are Centrally sponsored ones.

An expenditure of RS.23.66 lakh was incurred in 1996-97 thereby benefitting 1895 cases Under National Scoail Assistance Programme and 119 cases under National Family Benefit scheme.

WELFARE OF GUJJARS AND BAKARWALS

During 1996-97 an amount of Rs.36.71 lakh was expended on the welfare of Gujjars and Bakerwals, whereas allocation for 1997-98 stood at Rs.35.54 lakhs.

6370 Gujjar and Bakerwal students against the target of 5700 were granted scholarships. Examination fee was reimbursed in favour of 8 students.

In addition, two mobile medical aid centres were also opened, besides the management of boys/girls hostel having 150 boarders and one Serai at Jammu.

INDUSTRIES

The district has the State's biggest industrial complex of large and medium scale industries at Bari Brahamana, which is considered to be one of the biggest in the northern India. The complex developed by the SIDCO, houses about 30 large and medium scale units. Many more units are in the pipe line. In view of increased demand for land in the complex, it is being extended and Phase IV of the complex is under development for which 2,000 canals of land is under acquisition, while Phase III is spread over to 1912 kanals only. Recently SIDCO has issued letters of intent in favour 26 new units in the complex. The district has also State's oldest small scale complex at Digyana. Since there was no more scope for expansion, new industrial sities have been developed at Gangyal and Birpur. While the Gangyal industrial estate is spread over to 988 kanals, Birpur has any area of 306 kanals. The former has 248 plots while the latter has 147 plots. All these plots have since been allotted to the enterprenuers and units established. At Gangyal 141 units and at Birpur 51 units are functional presently. For speedy industrailisation of Jammu, the Government has taken up construction of Rs. 6.50 crores Udyog Bhawan at Rail Head Jammu, which will have all the facilities for clearance of industrial units under one roof. The Government is also developing Samba as growth centre at a cost of Rs 16 crores and land for the purpose, has been acquired. Its first phase is nearing completion at a cost of Rs. 6.50 crores. One ESI hospital is also being constructed for industrial workers at Bari Brahmna.

An expenditure of Rs.54.87 lakh was incurred on its activities during 1996-97. An allocation of Rs.67.96 lakh had been provided to this sector in 1997-98 district plan.

Similarly, in Handicrafts sector, Rs.38.44 lakh had been provided for the year 1997-98. In 1996-97, an expenditure of Rs.36.63 lakh was incurred under this sector. The department produced products worth Rs.1.96 lakh and sold products worth Rs.74,000. The department also imparted training to 408 trainees in elementary and advance courses.

The department spent an amount of Rs.11.39 lakh on its activities in 1996-97. It had an allocation of Rs.13.59 lakh for 1997-98.

An expenditure of Rs.7.68 lakh was spent during 1996-97 in the Sericulture sector. A sum of Rs.9 lakh had been allocated in the 1997-98 district plan. The department produced 14,200 kgs. of cocoons in 96-97 and planted 1.33 lakh tall/dwarf plants and set up 12 incubation centres in the district.

LABOUR WELFARE

A provision of Rs.6.30 lakh had been made in the plan under Labour Welfare

The Labour Welfare Department provided first aid facilities to 3954 industrial workers and provided shelter to 6604 migratory labourers in the Labour

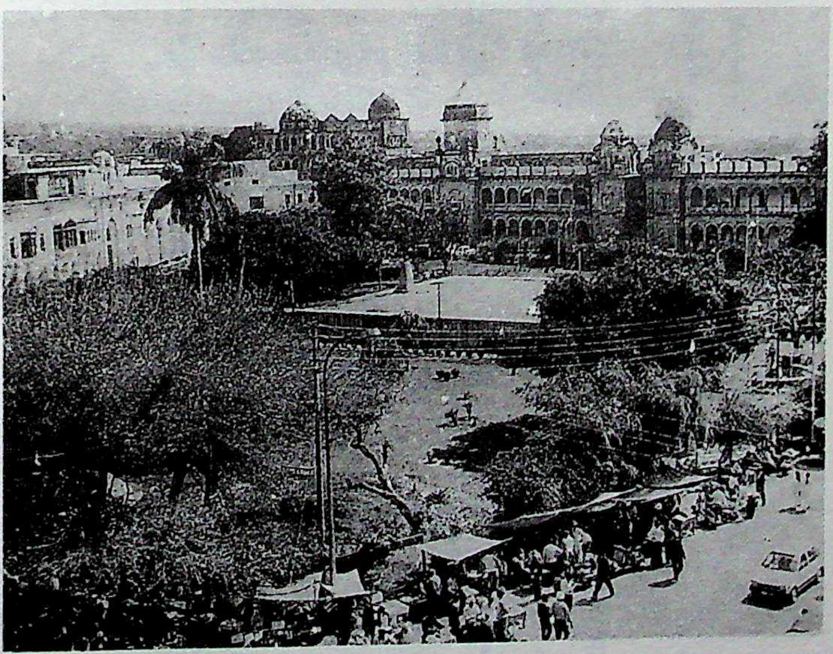
CC-

Sarai during 1996-97.

NUTRITION

During 1996-97, Rs.148.77 lakh was spent on providing nutrition under the ICDS, while an amount of Rs.149.50 lakh had been set apart for providing nutrition during 1997-98.

During 1996-97, 58,000 beneficiaries including pregnant women, nursing mothers and children, in the age group of 6 months to 6 years, were provided nutrition under the ICDS which is operative in all the eleven blocks of the district.



Mubarik Mandi Complex

PLAN EXPENDITURE (IN LAKH)

Sector	Expdt. 92-93	Expdt. 93-94	Expdt. 94-95	Expdt. 95-96	Outlay 96-97	Expdt. 96-97	Expdt. 92-97
Agriculture & Allied Service	473.97	449.20	530.97	572.09	608.87	664.51	2690.74
Rural Dev.	116.04	239.65	284.53	342.58	428.34	455.21	1438.01
Industries	77.33	74.94	80.38	97.00	99.55	112.44	442.49
Communication.	221.13	229.41	269.53	340.15	367.51	505.58	1565.80
Energy	32.56	75.74	115.96	197.75	190.00	199.29	621.30
Social & Gen.Services	1473.41	1388.71	1485.78	1907.93	2450.28	2345.34	8601.17
Others	0.87	3.70	3.82	3.79	3.37	4.66	16.84
Total:-	**2359.71**	**2461.35**	**2770.97**	**3461.29**	**4147.94**	**4287.03**	**15376.35**

MEDIA HEADS/PROs

SH.ASHOK JERATH STATION DIR. RADIO KMR,JAMMU	547936	543025
SH MANZOOR-UL-HAQ Station Dir. DOORDARSHAN	546541	433727
ASSTT DIR. SONGS AND DRAMA DIV.GOI	48742	
SMT BHARTI VAID, DPIO	43942	
Lt. Col. S. P. Singh PRO.NORTHERN COMMAND UDHAMPUR	472/594/911	
Lt.Col.A. N. Kakoria PRO 26 CORPS JAMMU	535571/338401-2	
JT.DIRECTOR INFORMATION,JAMMU	542762	
DY.DIRECTOR INFORMATION	548165	48867

MEMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. Ch. Piara Singh, Gandhi Nagar,Jammu
2. Sh.Hans Raj Dogra, Jammu West
3. Sh.Som Nath, Samba
4. Sh.Jagdish Raj Dubey, Bishnah
5. Sh.Ram Chan, R.S.Pura
6. Sh.Chuni Lal, Suchitgarh
7. Sh.Sat Pal Lakhotra, Raipur Domana
8. Sh.Tara Chan, Chamb
9. Smt.Bimla Luthra,(Nominated)
10. Mtm.Subeeda Salaria, (Nominated)

MEMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

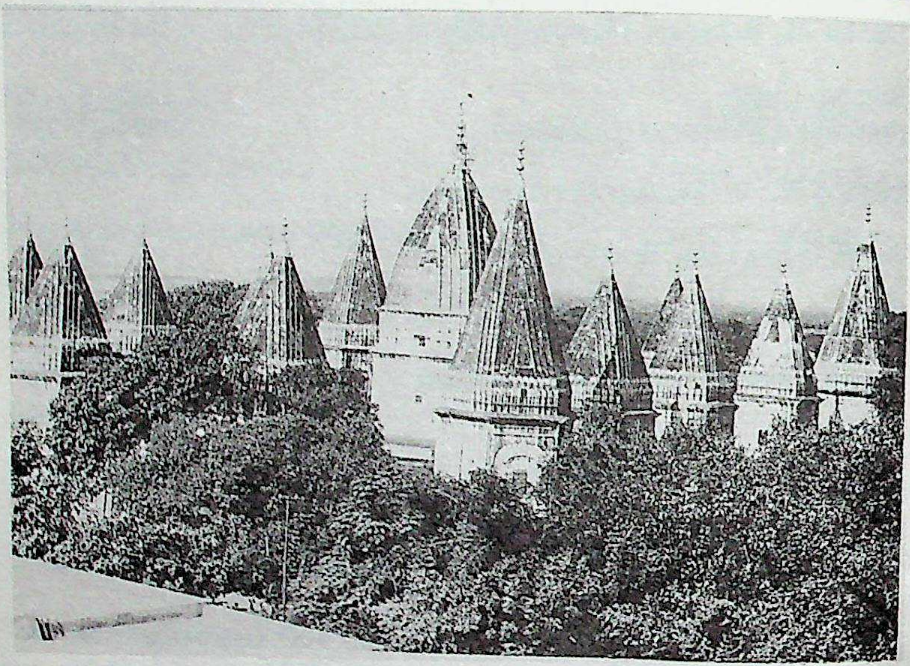
1. Dhan Raj Bargotra	542317\548041
2. Gulchain Singh Charak	430334\454946
3. Maj. Gen (Retd.)Gowardhan Singh Jamwal	431901
4. Prof.Y.R.Malhotra	
5. S.Harbans Singh	453803
6. S.M.Gill	549573
7. Mahashe Veer Chand	

OTHER PROMINENT LEADERS

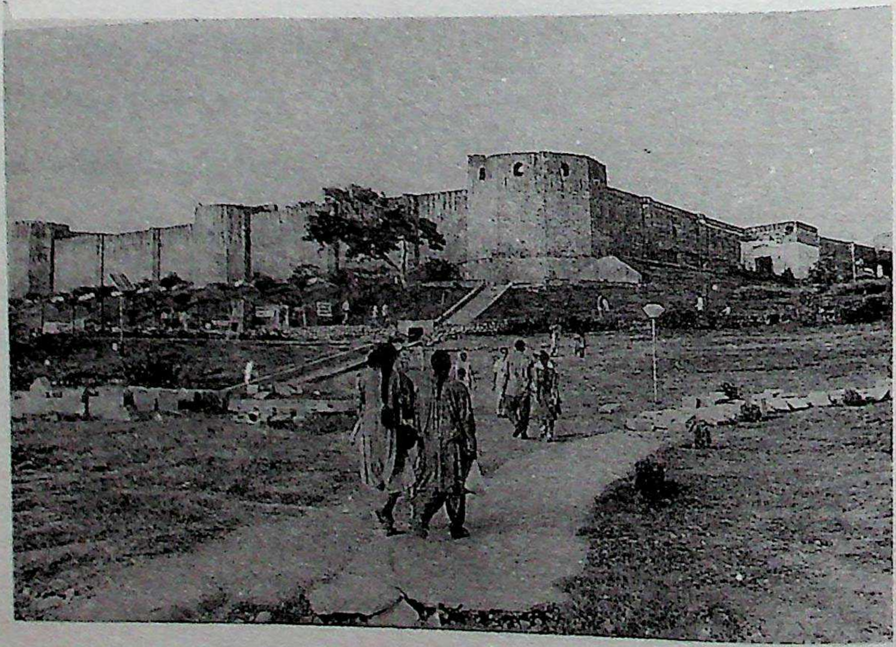
DR.Karan Singh,former Governor & Former Union Minister M.P.	543303
President PCC(I)	548270
Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta, M.P.	432522
Vaid Vaishno Dutt, M.P.	555601
Main Bashir, Cong.(I) leader	
D.C.Prashant, Former M.P.	543278
Janak Raj Gupta, former M.P.,	431169/450844
Mangat Ram Sharma, Ex-M.P.	430853
R. S. Chib, Former Minister	452252

Sheikh Ab. Rehaman, President BSP	
Ramesh Gupta President Chamber of Commerce	430000/433535
Ved Raj Wazir, President Bar Assocaition	
Ashok Gupta (Shiv Sena)	542470
D. K. Kotwal, President BJP	577036
Sheikh Nazir Ahmed, General Secretary	578010

Grant

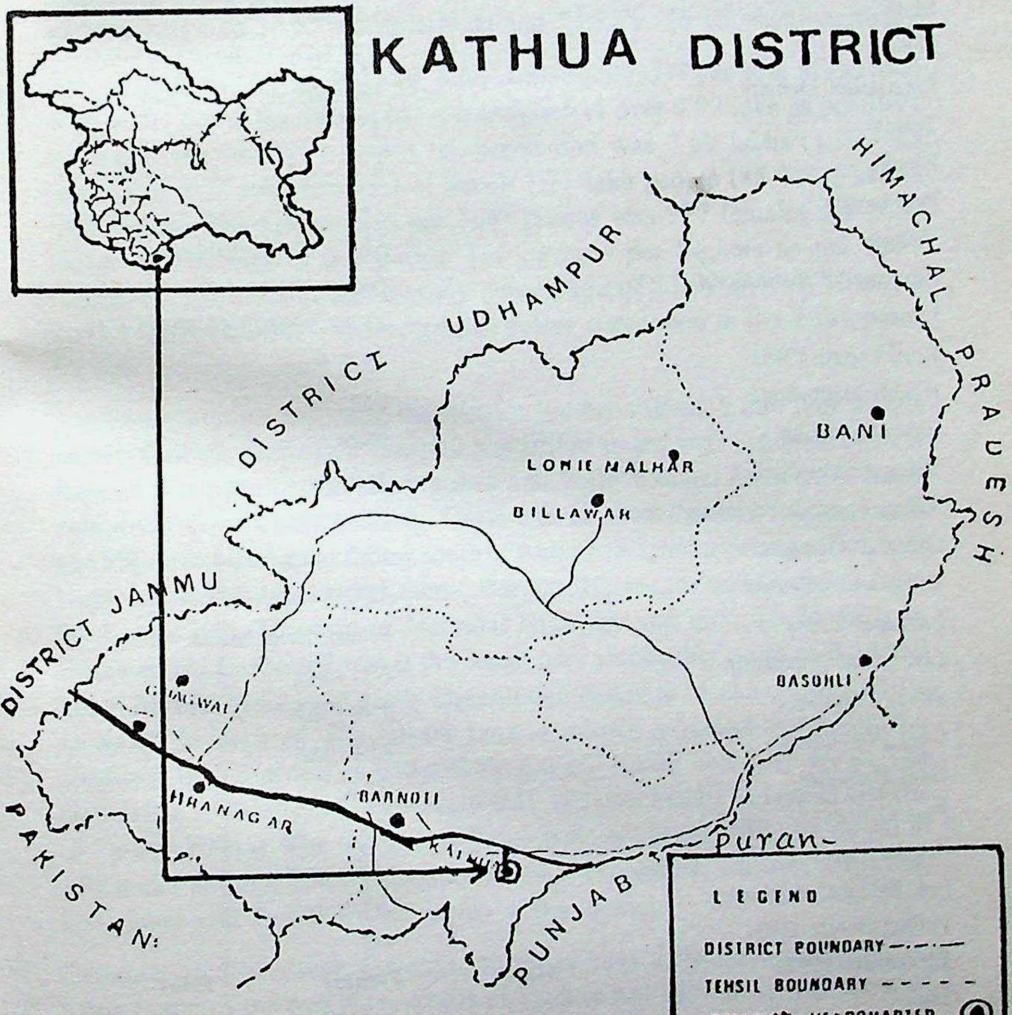


Rughunath Temple



Bahufort

KATHUA DISTRICT


HIMACHAL PRADESH
DISTRICT UDHAMPUR
BANI
LOHIE MALHAR
BILLAWAR
DISTRICT JAMMU
GHAGWAL
HIRANAGAR
BARNOTI
KATHUA
BASOHLI
PAKISTAN
PUNJAB
Puran-
LEGEND
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
TEHSIL BOUNDARY
DISTRICT HEADQUARTER
BLOCK HEADQUARTER
ROADS

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KATHUA AT A GLANCE

Area		2651 Sq. Kms.
Population	(1991 est)	4,92,288
	(1981 census)	3.69 lakh
Male		1.92 lakh -do-
Female		1.77 lakh -do-
Population Density		186 persons per Sq.Km
Tehsils		4
Blocks		8
Panchayats		183
Villages		587 (22 un-inhabited)
Educational Institutions		969
Literacy		41 % (DISNIC SURVEY-94)
Road Length PWD		1077 Kms
Health Institutions		252
Industrial Units		3839
Villages Electrified		550
Villages provided drinking water		555
Gross area sown		1,19,849 hectares
Gross area Irrigated		32,752 hectares
Principal Crops		Wheat, Rice, Maize
Live Stock Population		2.91 Lakh
Sheep Population		2.78 Lakh
Goat Population		3.94 Lakh
Bank Branches		60
Post Offices		129
Annual Plan 1997-98		33.67 crore
Lok Sabha Constituency		Udhampur
Polling Booths (P.B)		408

Electorate(1998)	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Bani	15353	14107	29460
Basohli	28103	25120	53223
Kathua	49114	39284	88398
Billawar	33068	29576	62644
Hiranagar	43365	37144	80509
Total	**169003**	**145231**	**314234**

Known as Gateway of Jammu and Kashmir State, Kathua district lies in South-East of the State. It is bounded on the east by Chamba district of Himachal Pradesh and on south by Shakergarh tehsil of Pakistan and Gurdaspur district of Punjab. Ramnagar tehsil of Udhampur district and Bhaderwah tehsil of Doda district fall on its north while Samba tehsil of Jammu is on its north west. On the South West lies Indo-Pak border. It is located 32.17' to 32.55' north latitude and 75.32'to 76.16' east longitude.

Spread over an area of 2651 sq. Kms constituting 1.9 per cent of the total area of the State, the district has a population of over 4.92 lakh as per 1991 estimates. As per 1981 census the population was 3.69 lakhs (1.92 lakh males and 1.77 lakh females) of which 3.27 lakh people (88.24%) live in rural areas. The sex ratio as per 1981 census was 917 females per 1000 males and density of population 186 persons per Sq.kms as per 1991 estimates. The district has literacy percentage of 31.90 (41.67 % males and 21.25 % females). The scheduled castes population in the district was 84,000.

For administrative purposes, the district has been divided into four tehsils namely Kathua, Hiranagar, Basohli and Billawar and with a sub-division at Basohli for administrative purposes and eight blocks. District broadly comprises three distinct zones. These can be described as border, kandi and hilly areas. The areas falling south of Pathankot-Jammu-Srinagar National Highway in four blocks of Kathua, Barnoti, Hiranagar and Gaghwal form the border belt. To north of National Highway and upto the foothills in Billawar and Basohli blocks,is the kandi area and further areas of Bani and Lohai Malhar blocks and partly Basohli and Billawar blocks consitute hilly areas of the district. The border area is mostly irrigated and economic condition of the people is better than that of Kandi and hilly areas. The district has 587 villages (32 un-inhabited), 183 panchayats and equal number of Patwar Halqas. The number of Panchayats are proposed to be raised to 179 under re-organisation scheme. Kathua, Hiranagar, Basohli, Billawar, Lakhanpur and Parole are six towns of the district.

Because of altitudinal varieties, there is vast difference between the temperature of the two plain tehsils of Kathua and Hiranagar with those of hilly tehsils of Basohli and Billawar. The temperature rises as high as 48 C in the plains and goes down below 1.5 degree C in upper hilly areas. In other two tehsils of Basohli and Billawar, the temperature does not cross 36. Most of the higher areas in these tehsils experience snowfall for most part of the year. The average rainfall ranges between 200 and 1200 mm for different regions. Basohli and Billawar areas receive more rainfall than other areas. The two main rivers of the district are Ravi and Ujh, which are major contributors to the prestigious Ravi-Tawi Irrigation Complex. These rivers and their tributories feed a number of small canals and irrigation khuls.

As regards the main ethenic groups, hindus constitute 91 % of the district while Muslims form 7 % and Sikhs 2 % of the population. The major concentration of scheduled Tribes population is in the blocks of Bani and Lohai-Malhar. The scheduled castes population in the district is 22.83 % as per 1981 census.

No river is navigable in the district. However, Ravi and Ujh rivers and their tributories are used for floating timber from forests, which is collected near Madhopur (Punjab) and Ujh Barrage.

The most important minerals in the district are cement grade lime stone in Basohli area, Low grade iron deposits in Lohai-Malhar block, Gypsum deposits in village Daulla in Basohli tehsil and Slates in Duggan nallah and near Sewa Nallah in Bani block. Another mineral found near Siare in Bani block is Quartzide used in glass making. Bentonite is available in Surrara area of Hiranagar tehsil. Fullersearth, useful in drugs, cement and plaster is also available in the district. Alum exists in Serai nallah near Ramkote and Ujh river. Clay of various colours and varieties is also found at many places.

Dogri is the main language spoken by the people of the district. Though the Dogri spoken in major towns in the plains has some influence of Punjabi yet the rural areas and especially the hilly tehsils of Basohli and Billawar are free from this influence. The language in the rural and hilly areas has maintained its native purity, accent and sweetness. However, a very small section of the population (Kashmiri muslim settlers) residing in Lohai-Malhar and Bani blocks also speak Kashmiri. Gojri is also spoken by the minuscula Gujjar community settled here and there. However, with others they converse in pure Dogri.

There are a number of monuments in the district like towering forts and magnificent palaces at Kathua, Lakhanpur, Thain, Basantpur, Jasmergarh (Hiranagar) Jasrota, Ramkote, Samarto, Kohag, Sundrikote, Bhadu and Basohli. The remanants of these monuments remind us of the glory and grandeur of the resplendent past and richness of its architecture. Jasrota has been declared as an ancient monument by the State Government.

HISTORY

Though there is no detailed and fully documented history of the district, yet it bears its name after its headquarter According to revenue records, there is a mention of three villages (hamlets) namely Taraf Tajwal, Taraf Manjali and Taraf Bhajwal. The conglomeration of these three hamlets was loosely called 'Kathai' in earlier times which with the passage of time came to be called Kathua.

It is believed that one Jodh Singh a famous Rajput of Andotra clan migrated from Hastinapur to Kathua nearly 2,000 years ago and settled here. The three hamlets of Taraf Tajwal,Tarif Manjali and Taraf Bhajwal were later established by his three sons ,Teju, Kindal and Bhaju. Their descendents are now called Tajwalia, Bhajwalia and Khanwalia Rajputs of Andotra sub-caste. Major portion of the present- day Kathua town and the main Bazar falls in Taraf Tajwal while Parli-Wand of the town falls in Taraf Manjali and Taraf Bhajwal. Greek historians, who provide an insight into the ancient history of Jammu hills prominently record the existence of two powerful empires of Abhisara (present day Poonch) and Kathaioi at the time of invasion of India by Alexander, Strabo describes Kathaioi as a mighty republic of that era located in the foothills along river Ravi. The topography of Kathaioi corresponds with the present day "Kathua". Strabo describes the people of this republic as epitone of bravery and courage and records that they gave a tough fight to the invading army of Alexander. But the origin of Kathua town cannot be termed as the history of the entire district. The present day Kathua district encompasses some of the most important and powerful states and principalities of the bygone era.

JASROTA, once the seat of imperial power was made a wazarat (district) of Jammu Province when Gulab Singh became the Maharaja of Jammu & Kashmir in March, 1846. During the reign of Maharaja Ranbir Singh, Jasrota comprised two tehsils and 13 parganas. Jasrota was founded by Raja Jas Dev of Jammu in 1019 A.D. and passed it on to his uncle Raja Karan Dev. The rulers of Jasrota, though Jamwals, were called Jasrotias. The State comprised vast territory from present Hiranagar to Ravi river. Jasrotias ruled this state upto 1834 A.D., when it was given to Raja Hira Singh, nephew of Maharaja Gulab Singh as Jagir.

Billawar (Balawar or Balaur), now tehsil headquarter town of the district is believed to be capital of one of the oldest and important states of Duggars group. According to Dr. Sukhdev Singh Charak. Balaur (Vallapura)-Basohli was one of the three parent/ original States of the Dugar group alongwith

Jammu and Poonch (Prunts). All other states of Dugar group were either their off-shoots or principalities. Originally, Vallapura, the hilly state, finds mention in the Rajatarangni as capital of the State till 1630 A,.D., when Raja Man Shakkiya shifted the capital to Basohli. The descendants of the ruling family of this State are known as "Billawarias". The area of the State was spread over to hilly tracts of over 2,600 kms. Bhaderwah tehsil of Doda district was also its principality those days.

Mankote (presently called Ramkotge) is an important town in Billawar tehsil of the district, is situated on a hillock on the bank of Basantar stream on Dhar-Udhampur road. It used to be a small state spread over an area of 24 km. in length and 15 kms. in breadth. Mankote was founded by Raja Manak Dev, a contemporary of Raja Narsingh Dev of Jammu (1272-1314 A.D.). It was renamed by Raja Suchet Singh (1822-43) as Ramkote.

Lakhanpur, the gateway of Jammu & Kashmir, was once the capital of a small State situated between Ravi and Ujh rivers. It has also been mentioned as 'Thein State'in some references. This state was carved out of the erstwhile Jasrota State at the close of 13th century. Raja Sangram Singh, the younger brother of the Jasrota Raja, founded Lakhanpur state.

BHADU a prominent town of Billawar tehsil, was also once the seat of Imperial power. It was very small state comprising 36 villages. Bhadu town is situated on Bhini nallah, a tributary of Ujh river. The descendants of the royal family are called Bhadwal Rajputs.

TIRIKOTE, near Jasrota was also important state in the district. However, Tirikote got extinguished with the founding of Jasrota State.

DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

PLANNING, the basic input of any development strategy, has been decentralised to grassroot level to incorporate local priorities and involve majority of population in implementation of development-cum-employment projects and welfare schemes. However,the development efforts have received the much needed impetus with increased financial input after the assumption of power in the State by the popular Government. The annual district plan spendings, which were Rs.24 crores during 1995-96 shot upto Rs.29.10 crores during 1996-97, an unprecedented 21.25 % step up in a single year. There is a further step up of 36 % in the annual district plan outlay for 1997-98. As against original outlay of Rs.24.65 crores during 1996-97, allocation during 1997-98 was Rs.33.67 crores.

HON'BLE M.P.
SH. SURJIT SINGH SALATHIA
M.K. AJATSHATRU SINGH
CHAIRMAN
SH. SURESH KUMAR

District Development Board Meeting

DISTRICT Plan 1997-98

(Rs.in lakhs)

S.No.	Sector	Outlay	Expenditure (Provisional)
1.	Agriculture & Allied Services	517.83	488.70
2.	Rural Development	337.08	862.10
3.	Industries	112.57	115.59
4.	Communication	490.24	373.03
5.	Energy	190.00	191.00
6.	Social & Gen.Services	1713.75	1499.13
7.	Others	6.07	5.88
	Total:	**3367.54**	**3535.43**

(Including additionalities)

AGRICULTURE

The district's economy is predominantly agricultural. Kathua and especially command area of the district has now emerged as the grain bowl of the

State with completion of prestigious Ravi-Tawi Irrigation Project. The gross sown area is 1.19 lakh hectares while net sown area is 58.110 hectares. Wheat, paddy and maize are main crops and sown extensively. Wheat is cultivated on over 49,000 hectares, paddy on 26,000 hectares and other crops like maize, millets, oil seeds, pulses, fodder and vegetables on 44,000 hectares. In respect of paddy, wheat, pulses, oilseeds and fodder, the entire area stands covered under high yielding variety and in case of maize, the area is being saturated in a phased manner. The productivity level is 7.2 tonnes per hectare in the command area against national average of 2.2 tonnes. The productivity of paddy in command area has gone up from 19 quintals to 43 quintals per hectare during the past decade. Similarly yield per hectare in respect of wheat and maize also went up from 10 quintals and 21 quintals to 32 quintals and 25 quintals respectively during same period. Dry land technology has been promoted in unirrigated areas. Cotton cultivation has been introduced in a big way in Command Area of the district in view of its three-times more return than paddy. Five thousand hectares area will be brought under its cultivation. Sunflower and vegetable cultivation is being popularized in a big way. Apiculture and Mushroom cultivation is also picking up rapidly. During 1996-97, 75 quintals of honey and 201 quantals of mushroom production was registered. During 1996-97, Rs.1.20 crores were incurred on agriculture sector in non-command areas alone as against Rs.1.08 crores in 1995-96. During 1996-97, 43,396 hectares were brought under high yielding programme in non-command areas alone.

AGRARIAN REFORMS

Agrarian Reforms work was taken up in 565 villages. Work under section 12 of the Agrarian Act has been fully completed in 287 villages. 578 agreements and 486 mutations have been attested in respect of 6,172 kanals of land. Nearly 3.24 lakh kanals of land had been escheated to the State benefitting 48,886 prospective owners under section 4.Occupancy rights in favour of displaced persons of 1947 have been conferred in 84 villages under section 3A. Over Rs. 2.56 crores have been recovered as levy from prospective owners. Against which over Rs.1.88 crores have since been disbursed among the ex-owners. Jamabandi work has been completed in 343 villages. Pass books have been provided to 46,746 farmers in 362 villages by ending April, 1997.

HORTICULTURE

Horticulture is being promoted on a large scale to improve the rural economy.

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Compact area plantation is being practised which has shown encouraging results. Over 18 lakh fruit plants have alone been planted in the district over the years. To promote horticulture on scientific lines, drip irrigation is also proposed. Strawbery cultivation has also been introduced. An ambitious five year Lichi Plantation Project covering 400 hectares in 27 border villages of Hiranagar and Ghagwal blocks and involving massive subsidy of Rs. 32.00 lakhs has been taken up by the Command Area Development Department. 52,615 fruit saplings were planted during 1996-97 as against the previous year's achievement of 47,000. Similarly, 19,961 inferior fruit plants were topworked during 1996-97 as against merely 16,000 during 1995-96.

Polygreen house technology has also been introduced and 16 such houses established during 1996-97. 24 youth/ students were provided three-month training in topworing at Basohli and provided tools and kits free of cost after the expiry of training. Rs.28.15 lakhs were incurred in non-command areas alone during 1996-97.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

The Government have set up 120 Veterinary Units in far flung rural areas of the district to provide timely treatment against various dreaded diseases to cattle wealth and to improve breed of animals. As a result of various efforts made by the animal Husbandry Department, the milk production in the district has touched a record high of 77,000 tonnes while egg and broiler meat production is 71 lakhs and 4.02 lakh tonnes respectively. 108 poultry farms in organised and sizeable number in un-organised sector are functioning in the district. 876 backyard units were also set up during 1996-97. 21,581 artificial insemination and 1,061 natural services were performed resulting in birth of 10,935 cross breed pregnancy. 2.08 lakh animal were treated, 1.84 lakh dosed and 3.72 lakh vaccinated against various dreaded diseases.

SHEEP HUSBANDARY

55 Sheep Extension Centres have been set up in rural areas of the district to provide health and breeding cover to sheep population .The main emphasis is being laid on promoting sheep rearing among stationery farmers in border areas of Hiranagar and Kathua tehsils. 448 rams of superior breed are being distributed among breeders for cross breeding purposes during 1996-97. 14.57 lakh kgs. of mutton and 5.54 lakh kgs. of

wool were produced during 1996-97. Rs.27.71 lakhs were spent on this sector during 1996-97. Sheep Breeding and Research Farm is functioning at Billawar to produce improved and pure breed rams which are then supplied to private breeders for upgrading the local stock. Similarly, a Diary Goat Farm has been set up at Rajbagh where improved milk goats are reared. These goats are later supplied to private breeders for increasing milk yield.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

As many as 8,875 families living below the poverty line have been provided financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 6.69 crores for establishment of income generating units in Non-Command area alone by the end of 1995-96. Similarly, under TRYSEM, 1823 youths have been trained in non-command areas in various trades by the end of 1995-96. During 1996-97, 364 income generating units were set up in the district and 296 youth trained under TRYSEM.DWCRA programme is also being implemented vigorously. 77 such groups were set up in 1996-97.

J. R. Y.

Vigorous implementation of JRY has yielded encouraging results in the rural areas of the district. Durable community assets have also been created in rural areas. During 1996-97, 1.06 lakh mandays work was generated in the district by completing 355 rural·development schemes. During 1995-96, about 4 lakh mandays work was generated in the district by executing 1980 rural schemes. An amount of Rs. 64.18 lakhs was spent during 1996-97.

INDIRA AWAS YOJNA

An all time high number of 996 houses were raised in the district under Indira Awas Yojna during 1996-97. Over Rs. one crore was released to the beneficiaries during the year to complete their houses taken up during 1995-96.

EMPLOYMENT ASSURANCE SCHEME

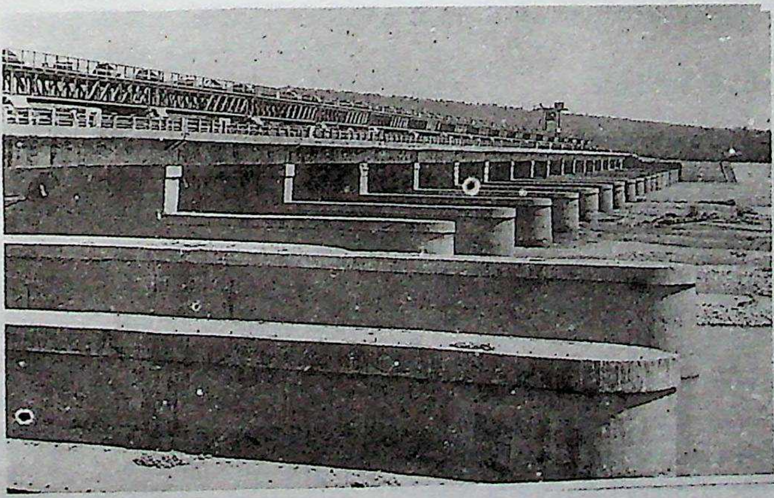
The scheme which was initially introduced in two hilly and backward blocks of Bani and Lohai-Malahar in 1995-96 was extended to all the eight development blocks of the district from 1996-97 at the initiative of the new popular Government. During 1996-97, Rs.1.75 crores were incurred under the scheme and 1.67 mandays generated by completing 446 rural works.

The development efforts in rural areas will receive a big boost with handsome provision of Rs.eight crores at the rate of Rs. one crore each block during 1997-98.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

There are two major roads in the district, which serve as its lifeline. Pathankote-Jammu National highway runs 56 kms. within the district right from Lakhanpur to Jatwal and 45 kms Dhar-Udhampur road which enters the State at Thein runs upto Ramkote within the district. These two lifelines of the district have been connected by link roads from Lakhanpur to Thein and Dayalachack to Chhalan. Besides, another landmark in road sector is the consolidation and construction of 88 kms long road from Basohli to Bani and then to Bhaderwah via Chhatar gala. Old Kathua-Jammu road also serves border areas of the district. The district is well served by bus services within the district and to other States. The broad gauge Railway Line in this district is 46 ~~Kms.~~ Gobindsar (Kathua), Budhi, Chhan Rorian, Dayala Chack, Hiranagar and Ghagwal are the six railway stations falling in the district.

As many as 391 villages (approximately 77 per cent) out of total 555 inhabited villages in the district have now road link facilities ushering in economic



Ujh Bridge, Kathua

prosperity for the inhabitants. During 1996-97,33.25 kms. were black topped, 27.60 kms. mettled and 9.90 kms. shingled roads were constructed. Besides, 4.90 kms. of new fear whether roads were also added to the existing road net-work. As a special case, three new link roads namely Pranta-Patyari, Nakian-Narolian and Airwan-Barnori were taken up and completed during the last financial year at a total cost of Rs.24.20 lakhs. A 75 metre span foot suspension bridge was taken up over nallah Chirl at Sialak at a cost of Rs.30.25 lakhs and is likely to be completed during 1997-98 benefitting 5000 persons.In order to open up cut-off areas, five suspension bridges are proposed to be constructed during 1997-98 in Bani area alone. Similarly, 17.2 kms. long Phinter-Sukrala Devi raod will be widened to promote pilgrim traffic to the holy Shrine. 24.05 kms. long Sukhral-Machhedi road will also be black topped during the plan period to promote tourism to this picturesque tourist destination. 19.05 kms. long Billawar-Katli road is also being black topped during this period. During 1996-97, subsoil investigation of 500 metre span cable stayed bridge over river Ravi at Basohli was also completed. The bridge which is likely to cost 61 crores will be second of its type in India, when constructed. Over Rs.3.55 crores were incurred under this sector in the district during 1996-97.

The total raod length of different specifications in the district is now 860 kms.

POTABLE WATER

All the 555 census villages have been provided potable drinking water by the end of March, 1997. Efforts are now afoot to provide coverage to 30% of the uncovered population primarily residing in mohras and out-skirts of main habitations. 37 such mohras with population of 6943 souls were provided drinking water during 1996-97. Out of 492 mohras, 106 stand covered. During 1996-97, 25 water supply schemes were fully completed out of 63 ongoing schemes in the district. During 1996-97, over Rs.4.52 crores were incurred under various district sector schemes alone. 14 hand pumps were also installed during 1996-97. Besides, Rs. 30.24 lakhs were provided under united grants to cover another 23 mohras and Rs.18.29 lakhs out of overall savings to cover 15 more mohras under the policy of the new popular Government to achieve cent per cent coverage in the shortest possible time.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

Barring five, all inhabited villages in the district have been covered under Rural Electrification Programme. Besides, 163 hamlets and 229 scheduled caste basties have also been covered. 397 villages have been brought under Intensive Electrification Programme. A massive programme is underway to energise pump sets for irrigation.

In order to improve power supply, 120 MVA 220/132/66 KV grid station is functioning at Hiranagar. A 220 KV transformer bank of the station was commissioned in 1996-97 to augment power supply in various areas of Kathua and Jammu districts.

A 20 MVA 132/66 KV grid station at Kathua, 66/33/11 KV receiving station at Hiranagar and 66/11 KV 25 MVA receiving station at Hatli Morh have been set up for improving power supply in the district.

IRRIGATION

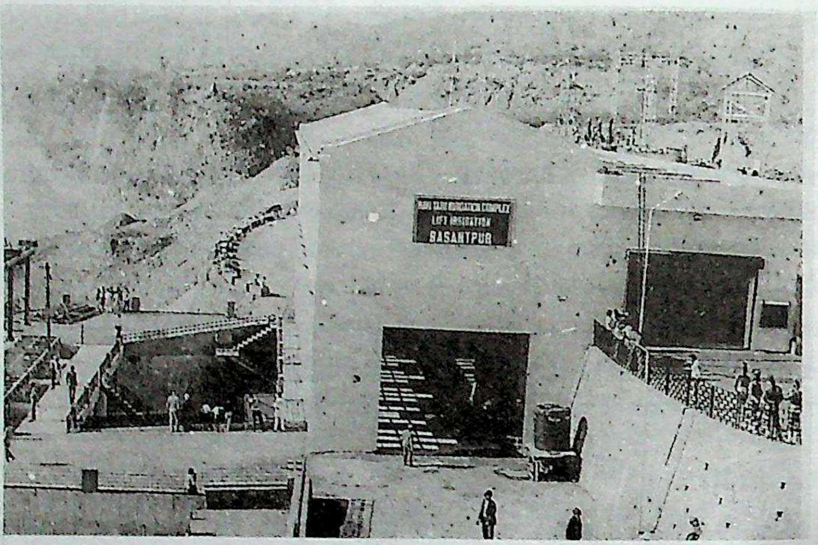
The total gross area under irrigation is nearly 32,782 hectares while net irrigated area is 19,260 hectares. Of which, irrigation potential under minor irrigation sector is 13,080 hectares. Additional irrigation potential of 30 hectares was created during 1996-97 from Chung Khul and Poonda canal. Out of 25 ongoing minor irrigation schemes, 17 schemes were fully completed during 1996-97. Over Rs.90 lakhs were incurred under minor irrigation sector during 1996-97.

FLOOD CONTROL

A cumulative sum of Rs. 2.50 crores had been spent on various flood protection schemes during the decade ending 1994-95. Special emphasis is being laid on draining of Ujh and Ravi rivers, which cause havoc during rainy season. In 1995-96, Rs.1.60 crores were expended on flood protection works on Ujh and Ravi rivers. During 1996-97, another Rs.59 lakhs were incurred. Of which, Rs. 34 lakhs were incurred at Keerian Gandyal over river Ravi and Rs.25 lakhs on Bhag Creek on river Ujh.

RAVI-TAWI IRRIGATION COMPLEX

The most prestigious and gigantic irrigation project of the State was taken in hand in 1975. Over Rs. 96 crores have already been spent on the project. Nearly 37,000 hectares of irrigation potential has been created by the project in Kathua district alone. More potential is being created by constructing field channels and laying distribution system. The project in the final stage



Basantpura Lift Station (Kathua)

will be further extended by constructing 2.3 km. long canal from Basantpur to Shahpur Kandi barrage. When fully completed, the project will irrigate 53,900 hectares in both Kathua and Jammu districts. Meanwhile, work on construction of lift schemes from the complex to irrigate Kandi areas is also being taken up shortly.

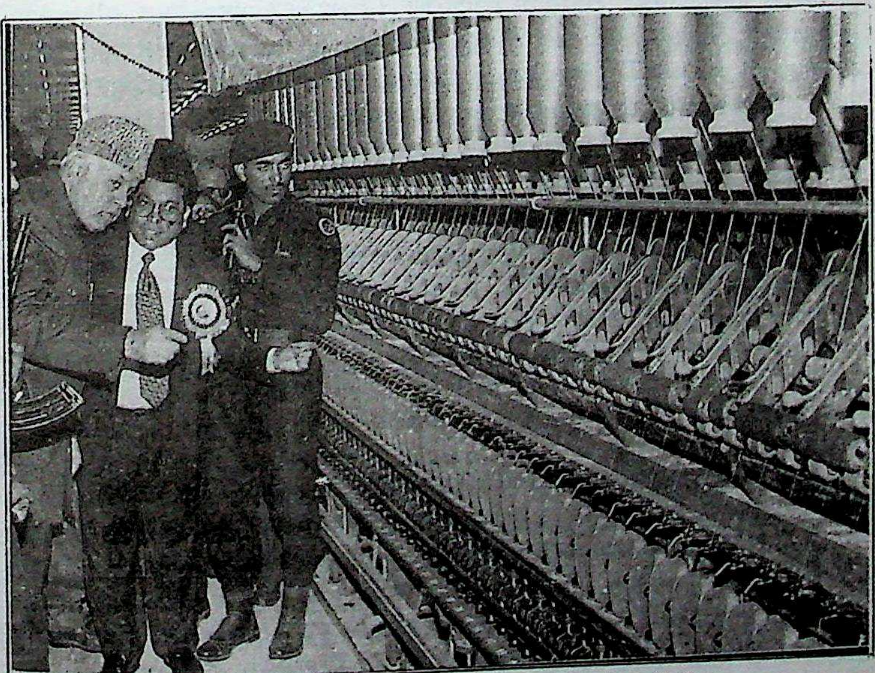
SEWA HYDEL PROJECT

The 135 -MW Sewa Hydel Project is being constructed on the Sewa river, tributory of Ravi river between Gatti and Mashka villages in Basohli tehsil of Kathua district. The project envisages utilization of a drop of 562 metres by constructing 941 metre high measonary Dam. Diversion of water upto a maximum design discharge of 25.62 cusecs is proposed through a semi circular intake structure. Water conductor comprises a 10.2 kms. long tunnel. The stage I will generate 6 MW of power. The phase II, the core phase of the project, will generate 120 MWs while phase III is likely to generate another 9 MWs of power. Stage III comprising 2880 Mt of water conductor, is likely to be completed by the end of 1998. The diversion structure at Mashka is almost complete and the work on power house is also in progress. Nearly Rs.30 crores have already been incurred on the project.

INDUSTRY

The industrial climate has considerbly improved in the district following the installation of the popular government. As many as 185 new units with total investment of over Rs.4.63 crores have gone into production generating employment for 578 persons in the district during 1996-97.Six important units established during 1996-97 are in various lines of activities like cattle feed, cement, refined oil, rice and flour mills involving investment of Rs.2.76 crores. The total number of small scale industrial units registered with District Industries Centre shot upto 3839 by the end of 1996-97. The annual turn over of these units is 104 crores and direct employment potential 11,282. During 1997-98, another 220 units are being registered formally and 400 units provisionally to generate employment for another 660 persons.

Industrial activity is fast picking up in the district in view of its locational advantage and has emerged as Industrially advanced district in the State only after Jammu and Srinagar districts.



Cheif Minister Inaugrated Chinab Textile Unit at Kathua

In view of the improved industrial climate, M/S Chenab Textile Mills, Kathuaalso added sixth unit in its mills with a capacity of 8928 spindles at a capital cost of Rs.20 crores. The Chief Minister, Dr. Farooq Abdullah inaugurated the unit on December 17,1996. The total spindle capacity of this largest industrial unit in the State has gone upto 55,200 and annual turn over to Rs.145 crores. The mills provide employment to 4,500 persons including 800 lady workers.

There are two functional Industrial Estates in the district. The Industrial Estates, at Kathua spreading over an area of 376 kanals has 43 functional units. The Hiranagar Industrial Estate spread over to 21 kanals has six functional units. An-other Industrial Estate is fast coming up at Dewal near Billawar on 44 kanals of land. The District Industries Centre is also running three training centres at Lakhanpur, Pathwal and Prithi Chack in knitting and woolen druggets with total annual intake capacity of 40 candidates.

HANDICRAFTS

Training programme launched by Handicrafts department has yielded encouraging results. Since 1980-81, 6074 persons have been trained in various crafts, trades and skills like phoolkari,embroidery, bamboo craft, Leather-cum-lacquer, Basohli painting, Chamba embroidery, tilla/sozni embroidery, Carpet weaving, Leather/stapple embroidery craft and calico printing. At present 22 Handicrafts training Centres are imparting training. Besides, a common facility centre has been set up at Sallan to impart training centres in Assamese Type Bamboo furniture. Six of the training centres have been upgraded to advance training centres and training period in these centres is of two years against one year in elementary centres. Goods worth RS.1.13 lakhs were sold during 1996-97. To provide employment avenues to the trainees after the expiry of training, 46 handicraft co-operative societies with total membership of 113 have been formed. Besides, a marketing society to organise sale of their products have also been set up.

HANDLOOM

Nine training centres are functioning in the district. These include six handloom weaving centres, one Pashmina weaving centre at Basohli and two readymade garment training centres. The trainees are provided stipend of Rs.100/- p.m. during the training period. So far 665 persons have been trained in weaving of blankets, shawls, bed sheets, towels and readymade garments since 1990-91. The trainees are encouraged to farm co-operative societies after the training. Eleven such co-operative societies including five handloom development centres and equal number of small scale societies besides one readymade garment society are now functioning in the district. The societies have a total membership of 1588 who are covered under various welfare schemes like education, health, insurance and thrift fund.

SERICULTURE

Nearly 2,700 poor families in 267 villages of the district are engaged in cocoon rearing. During 1996-97, 74,900 kilograms of cocoon was produced as against 64,000 kilograms in 1995-96. The department planted 2.46 lakh mulberry saplings during 1996-97. Fifteen nurseries have also been set up in various parts of the district which produce 2.40 lakh mulberry saplings. 36 inculation-cumchowki rearing centres were also set up. The Sericulture Department also organises action markets for benefit of the rearers.

KHADI VILLAGE & INDUSTRIES

The Khadi Village & Industries Board has advanced over Rs. 2.12 crores as loan and 15.73 lakhs as grant to 2,367 individuals and 145 cooperative societies. A number of small scale units in blacksmithy, carpentry, leather. Gur, Khandsari, oil, fibre, cane, bamboo and poultry etc. have been established. One cooperative society and 55 individial units were set up during 1996-97.

PISCI CULTURE

The prestigious National Fish Seed Farm at Kathua is the biggest farm of its type in northern India. Nearly Rs.1.92 crores have so far been incurred on it. The main objective of the farm is to produce quality fish seeds of six culturable varieties of both Indian and exotic carp like Rahu, Catla, Mrigal silver carp, grass carp and common carp. 31 ponds covering 6 hectares of land have been constructed under phase I. The circular Chinese hatchery constructed in the farm has the capacity to hatch 60-80 lakh eggs at a time. Under phase II, another six ponds have been constructed. The seed produced in the farm is stocked in Salal reservior besides distributing it to entrepreneurs interested in adopting fisheries as an occupation. The fish seeds produced under phase-II will be stocked in Rajnit Sagar Dam at Thein. Besides, a massive programme of stocking of fish seeds in village ponds has been taken up in the district sector. 10 ponds were stocked with fish seeds during 1994-95, 15 ponds in 1995-96 and 38 ponds in 1996-97. Trout farming was also introduced for the first time in Bani area during 1996-97. As a first step, 2750 trout fingerlings were stocked in cold water streams at Dhaggar, Khurwah and Sarthal. The fish meat production went upto 8,925 quintals during 1996-97 in the district.

HEALTH

One District hospital, three sub-district hospitals, one District T.B. hospital, 25 Primary health centres, 15 Allopathic dispensaries, 18 Medical Aid Centres, 127 medical Sub-centres, 6 Rural family welfare centres, 7 SET centres and one Leprosy and one V.D. unit are functioning in the district. Two Allopathic dispensaries of Haria Chack and Koti Chandiar were upgraded as primary Health Centres during 1996-97. Besides, six new Medical Sub-centres were sanctioned during 1996-97 at Samper-Sappla, Dhoulka, Kanthal, Gaddoti, Piph and Jandore. During 1996-97, nearly 6.50 lakh persons suffering from various ailments were treated against various communicable and non-communicable diseases. 985 persons were sterlised, 952 loops inserted, 92,000 contraceptive and 5,818 oral pill users convered. Under immunisation programme, 9,350 children were immunized against diphtheria and polio, 11035 against tuberculosis and 11,357 against measles. 16,000 pregnant women were also immunized, 220 eye operations were performed. Besides, 45 Ayurvedic dispensaries are also functioning under Indian System of medicine. Over 1.85 lakh patients were treated in Ayurvedic dispensaries during 1996-97.

The district has numerous medicinal herbs used in curing several diseases. Some of the medicinal herbs available in the district are:-Gilo, Rasount, Sarponkha, Barm, Drakhya, Chakkar Mardh, Dhabba, Buin, Amla, Gunjan, Papra, Kamila, Neem, Bassa, Amaltass, Nargundi, Arend, Plash, Jammun, Bilb, Manchnar, Punnernava, Tulsi, Kantkari, Appamarg, Tatura, Shankh, Pushpi, Brehmi, Lassan, Pudhina, Adrak, Pessahbed, Kutay, Ajwain, Kulrh, Yav, Gulab, Banuffsha, Papita, Gokhru, Haldhi, Pessanbed etc.

EDUCATION

As many as 969 educational institutions are functioning in the district. These include one degree college, 17 higher secondary, 64 high, 228 middle, 636 primary, 19 mobile and two seasonal primary schools and Pathshallas each. The enrolment in schools upto elementary level touched a record figure of 92,777 during 1996-97. Besides, 12 new primary schools and addition of 6th class in six schools, 7th class in two schools and 8th class in five schools were sanctioned during 1996-97. In addition, upgradation of two middle schools to high schools and one high school to Higher Secondary school was also ordered. These will start functioning from the academic session 1997-98. 10 schools were provided Laboratory grants. 27,296 students provided uniforms and 1248 students given merit-cum-poverty scholarships during 1996-97.

Besides, 315 Adult Education Centres are also functioning. Over 67,000 adults have been made literate including 58,000 women, 24,000 scheduled castes and 456 scheduled tribes.

There is also a District Institute of Education and Trainings besides Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya functioning in the district. Four Industrial Training Institutes are also functioning in the district. The ITI, Kathua is imparting training in 7 trades. ITI Hiranagar in 8 trades, and ITI Basohli in 4 trades. The ITI Billawar has two trades at Billawar and another two at Bhaddu.

The literacy percentage which was 31.90 % in 1981 went upto 41 in January,1994 as per DISNIC survey. The literacy among the females went up from 21.25 % to 24.50 % during the period.

SPORTS AND GAMES

To promote extra curicular activities including sports and games among the students and non-student youth, the Youth Services and sports department has established a wide network in the district. Headed by a District Level Officer, the department has 18 masters, 175 teachers and 9 NDDI's in physical education serving in various schools throughout the district. These also include one female master, 38 female teachers and one NDSI for girl students. The department organised two trekking expeditions, one sports festival and Dharam Ekta Divas participated by 112, 550 and 2,000 students respectively during 1996-97. Inter-school, inter-zonal and district level school tournaments involving 4500 students were also organised. A five-day scouts and guide camp participated by 100 students and rural sports participated by 225 non-student youths were also organised during 1996-97.

BORDER AREA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Over Rs.4.77 crores have been incurred on strengthening of development infrastructure and improving basic amenities of life in border areas of the district under Border Area Development Programme by the end of 1996-

97. The cumulative achievement registered under phase I,II,III and IV include construction of 47 primary school and 27 middle school buildings and provision of five ambulances and one ultrasound machine in health sector. Four villages have been covered under Rural Sanitation Programme while work in another 10 villages is in progress. Playfields have been developed in 14 schools. 25 link roads have been constructed/improved. 126 villages have been provided three units of solar lights each.

SOCIAL WELFARE

The ambit of Integrated Social Security Scheme was further widened in 1996-97 in the district to bring more destitutes and handicapped persons under its coverage in pursuance of the policy of the popular Government. As against 4,237 destitutes under coverage in 1995-96, the coverage during 1996-97 was raised to 6193. Nearly Rs.95 lacs were provided as financial assistance to destitute men and women and handicapped persons during 1996-97. Besides, another Rs.12.30 lakhs were provided to 1613 such beneficiaries above 65 years of age under National Oldage Pension Scheme. All the 13,402 scheduled caste students were provided pre-matric scholarships amounting to Rs.34.20 lakhs. Besides, 760 scheduled caste students studying in colleges and undergoing professional training were provided post-matric scholarships amounting to Rs. 11.81 lakhs. All the 432 students who appeared in board examination were re-imbursed examination fee. 54 Scheduled caste trainees in ITI's where provided stipend of Rs.30,000. Besides, tools and kits were also provided to candidates who have completed their trainings. To improve the education standard of Scheduled Caste/ scheduled tribe students, special coaching classes were organised in eight high and higher secondary schools during 1996-97 at a cost of Rs.1.10 lakhs. Besides, a hostel for SC/ST students is also being constructed at Bani at a total cost of Rs.29 lakhs. Similarly 2091 students belonging to other backward classes were provided pre-matric scholarships amounting to Rs.5.35 lakhs and 85 students reimbursed examination fee of Rs.34,000. Two ITI trainees of these classes were provided stipend. 55 children of sweepers and 106 physically handicapped students were also provided scholarships amounting to Rs.13,000 and Rs. 24,600 respectively. 16 handicapped persons were provided Tri-cycles, wheel chairs, crutches, hearing aids and artificial limbs. The department is also running 11 social welfare centres and 4 cottage Industry centres and 3 tribal centres with intake capacity of 25 trainees. Besides, a Bal-ashram with 55 inmates and a Nari-Niketan with 30 inmates are also functioning in the district. 41 bereaved families were provided financial assistance of Rs.3.17 lakhs under National Maternity Benefit Scheme during 1996-97.

ICDS

Three more ICDS Projects have been sanctioned for Barnoti, Ghagwal and Lohai-Malhar blocks of Kathua district recently. With this, all the eight Community Development Blocks of the district stand covered under Integrated Child Development Scheme.

As many as 449 Anganwari Centres are functioning at present in five existing ICDS projects providing package of services including supplementary nutrition to over 14,000 children upto 6 years of age besides 3334 pregnant and lectating mothers. These centres have also been serving as bridge between the people and Health Department bringing health services to their doorsteps. Under this programme, Rs.53.28 lakhs were spent during 1996-97.

TRIBAL SUB PLAN

Rs.12.16 lakhs were incurred in the district during 1996-97 under special Central Assistance to Tribal sub-plan. The amount was incurred on various development sectors directly benefitting the tribals. 1420 tribals were covered in agriculture sector while 400 tribals were imparted training in horticulture sector. The beneficiaries in Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry and social welfare sectors were 218, 170 and 20 respectively. The beneficiaries in Public Health Engineering sector were 53.

GUJJAR AND BAKERWALS

Rs. 17.97 lakhs were incurred on development of Gujjars and Bakerwals in the district during 1996-97. 1732 students of these communities were provided scholarships of Rs.2.75 lakhs and 100 students books and uniforms worth Rs.1.56 lakhs. Rs. 8.32 lakhs were incurred on management of Gujjar and Bakerwal hostel where 100 students of these communities were provided accommodation, diet, books, uniforms, stationery, extra coaching free of cost. Rs. one lakh was incurred on construction of library room in the hostel. A shopline near bus stand was constructed at a cost of Rs. 4.66 lakhs. In addition, over 4 kanals of land was acquired at village Chhan Datial in Hiranagar tehsil for setting up of a 80,000 litre capacity milk chilling plant.

COOPERATION

60 Multipurpose Cooperative Societies with a membership of over 21,000 besides five marketting societies at Kathua, Dayalachak, Mandli, Basohli and Bani were functioning in the district during 1996-97. Besides, two new societies namely Billawar Forest Labour Cooperative Society and Dhar-Mahanpur Forest Labour Cooperative Society were registered respectively to provide the labour/work to its members on contract basis. The membership of these societies is 147.

Rabbit Rearing Cooperative Society and Sheep Rearing Cooperative Society are being set up. There are 52 outlets functioning in the district. Consumer goods worth about Rs. 80 lakhs were sold through these societies during 1996-97. The short term loans and medium term loans amounting to Rs.1.81 crores were advanced during 1996-97. Besides 14,000 quintals of chemical fertilizers were also distributed through 48 cooperative fertilizer outlets.

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

As many as 213 public distribution outlets have been set up by the Food & Supplies Department to provide rations at controlled rates. Two ration outlets for nomadic population were also set up at Jerai and Basantpur during 1996-97. 15501 quintals of wheat, 23147 quintals of atta, 12411 quintals of rice, 2200 quintals of Mid-day meal rice and 23147 quintals of sugar were distributed through these outlets during 1996-97. 123 kerosene oil sale centres are also functioning. The Department has also set up nine godowns with total storage capacity of 24,000 quintals at Kathua, Hiranagar, Billawar, Basohli, Bani Bhoond, Machhedi and Lowang. One L.P.Gas agency is also functioning with nearly 4,700 connections. Besides, one kerosene oil tank with a capacity of 10,000 litres has been installed at Bani for meeting the kerosene requirements of the area.

EMPLOYMENT

Over 3,700 unemployed youth sponsored by the District Employment Exchange have secured employment in State and Central Government Departments besides Ranjit Sagar Dam, Thein during the last ten years. Besides, 11,143 unemployed candidates including 638 females, 1502 scheduled castes and 89 scheduled tribes were on the live register of the Employment Exchange ending February, 1997.

SELF EMPLOYMENT

Nearly 1.60 crores were sanctioned in favour of 211 unemployed educated youth in the district for setting up of self employment ventures under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojna during 1996-97, against which Rs.1.15 crores were disbursed among 159 youths besides 207 youth who were provided financial assistance of Rs.1.35 crores under the yojna in the district during 1995-96.

Under State Self Employment Programme, financial assistance of Rs.81.54 lakhs was provided to 90 educated unemployed youth during 1995-96 for establishment of self employment units. During 1996-97, Rs. 1.41 crores were sanctioned in favour of 131 youth under the programme.

Besides, another four cases involving financial assistance of Rs.91.47 lakhs sponsored by District Industries Centre under its normal programme were also sanctioned by the banks during 1996-97.

FORESTS

The total forest area in the district is 789 Sq.kms.(28% of the total geographical area). The district is rich in Deodar, Kail, Chir, Khair, Bamboo, Fir, Sheesham and other minor forest products. The major forests are located in Billawar, Basohli and Bani blocks. Minor forest products available are Ban Kakri, Brami, Barian, Tej Pattar, Dhoop roots, Kaour, Kamila, Rasount, Katha and Ambr etc. There are two territorial Forest Divisions and one Social Forestry Division in the district.

The Forest Divisions of Kathua and Billawar planted 1.26 lakh plants during 1996-97. Besides, in Social Forestry sector, 8.90 lakh saplings of fast growing species and 2.57 lakh grass slips were planted. 13,872 quintals of leaf fodder valued at Rs.18 lakhs were provided to 7065 farmers free of cost during 1996-97.

TOLL POST LAKHANPUR

Toll Post, Lakhanpur contributes substantially to the State exchequer. The revenue on account of toll tax, which was over Rs. 26.75 crores in 1995-96 rose to Rs.30.06 crores during 1996-97.

SALES TAX POST LAKHANPUR

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The revenue from Sales Tax Check Post, Lakhanpur, was Rs. 43.82 lakhs during 1996-97.Besides, Rs. 73.79 lakhs were realised as passenger tax during 1996-97.

P & T

One Head Post Office, 20 sub post offices and 108 branch post offices are providing postal facilities at present. Telegraph facilities are available at 13 places. Wireless facilities are also available in far off places like Bani and Lohai Malahar for urgent government messages.

Twenty three t exchanges with 2,700 connections are functioning in the district.New telephone exchanges at Bani, Dinga Amb, Bhaddu and 2,000 line exchange at Kathua were commissioned during 1996-97. Total number of STD/public telephones in the district is 11. Besides, 400 local public telephones in far-flung areas are also functioning. STD channels were raised from 30 to 60 during 1996-97. During 1997-98, 15 exchanges are being upgraded and STD facility extended to six exchanges. Besides, micro-wave stations are being installed at Billawar and Basohli for providing tehsil headquarters with STD facility during 1997-98.

BANKS

There are at present 60 branches of various commercial banks functioning in the district. The State Bank of India is the Lead Bank. The total deposits of various banks ending December, 1996 were Rs. 229 crores. Against which, the banks had advanced RS.54.93 crores in various sectors of economy.

RADIO

All India Radio has also set up "frequency modulation" Station at Kathua with 60 kms. range. A very low Power Doordarshan transmitter has also been set up at Kathua.

ANNUAL DISTRICT PLAN OUTLAY 1997-98

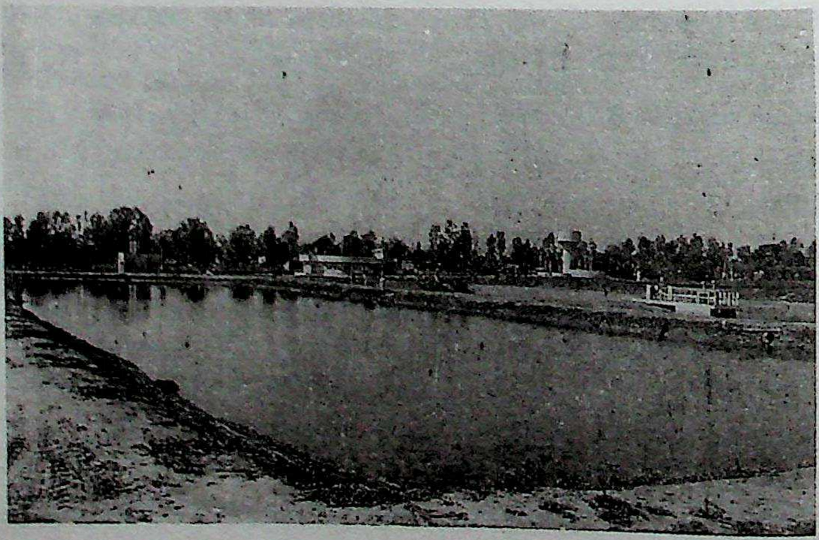
Sector	Outlay (in lakhs)	Sector	Outlay (in lakhs)
1. Agriculture	28.11	2. T & V	118.19
3. Horticulture	34.57	4. A.N.P.	4.10
5. Agri land	13.59	6. Dte.Soil Conservation	9.50
7. Animal Husbandry	68.66	8. Sheep Husbandry	36.13
9. Fisheries	5.52	10. Forest	50.70
11. Social Forestry	41.00	12. Food storage & Warehousing	5.00
13. Cooperation	9.73	14. Minor Irrigation	93.03
15. IRDP	47.49	16. JRY	48.24
17. CD & Panchayats	4.24	18. Gujjar and Bakerwal	26.86
19. DPAP	0.00	20. Rural Sanitation	14.80
21. Emp.Assurance Sch.	175.45	22. Handicrafts	43.09
23. Handlooms	16.00	24. D.I.C.	35.33
25. Sericulture	16.25	26. Weights & Measures	1.90
27. Roads & Bridges	484.75	28. State Motor Garages	5.49
29. Power (RE)	190.00	30. Education	713.71
31. Youth Services & Sports	37.15	32. Health	278.50
33. ISM	9.00	34. PHE (MNP)	426.32
35. Housing	0.00	36. Urban Development	36.34
37. Town Drainage	10.00	38 Fire services	0.00
39. Social Welfare	4.30	40. SC & OBC	53.94
41. Nutrition	47.60	42. Labour Welfare	1.05
43. Self Employment	72.74	44. Stationery & Civil Supplies.	0.15
45. PWD (NFB)	22.95	46. Planning Machinery	6.07
47. Grand Total	**3367.54**		

IMPORTANT PLACES

The district is also bestowed with religious wealth in the form of numerous shrines and places of worship enjoying reverence and allegiance of people professing different faiths and religions. The most important Shiva Shrines in the district are Mahabilvakeshwar temple at Billawar, Mahadev temple at Basohli Maranal temple near Jakhde and Shiva temple at Airwan (near Parole). The venerated Shrines associated with the mother Goddess are Sukrala Devi and Sundrikote in Billawar tehsil, Joudian, Dhoula and Shakti Shrines in Bani, Balaji Sundri temple near Parole and Chamunda Devi at Basohli, Narshimha temple at Gaghwal is unique of its type in the State. Various shrines associated with muslim saints are ziarats of Pir Fozal Shah near Kathua and Pir Chhatar Shah near Parole, Baba Surgal at Kathua and Bua Bagan temple at Tharakalwal are also very famous shrines of the district. Besides, Panjtirthi and Backon are important places of river pilgrimages in the district.

Some of important towns, tourist potential areas and religious places in the district are:-

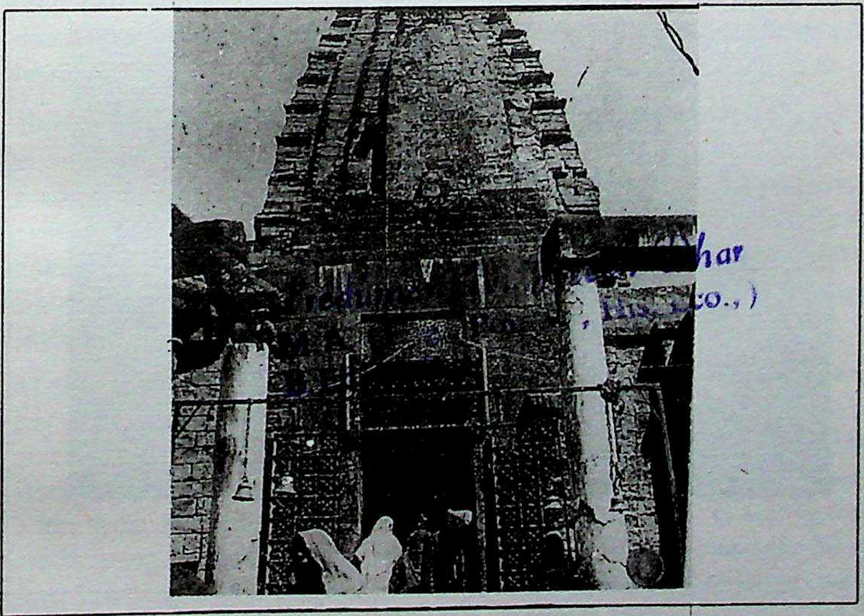
KATHUA is the district headquarter and the most populous town. The town offers a fine blend of the past and the present and fast developing on



Fish Farm at Kathua

modern lines. The most imposing building in the town is that of District Offices Complex. National Fish Seed Farm is one of the most prestigious projects that has come up in the town. The new Bus Stand , By-Pass with double lane Ambedkar bridge, Town Hall, Mahajan Hall, All India Radio Station, V.L.P.TV Transmitter, Cultural Hall, The 'Dream' Recreation Park, new Link Road are the new important landmarks revealing progress of the town on the path to modernization. A number of new colonies have come up giving modern and new look to the town. The town is also on the path of industrialization and is presently next only to Jammu and Srinagar cities. The biggest industrial unit in the town is Chenab Textile Mills. The Housing and Urban Development Department is also developing a housing colony near National Highway with developed plots and other infrastructure.

HIRANAGAR, Raja Hira Singh is believed to have founded Hiranagar town after his name when he was bestowed with the Jagir of Jasrota by Maharaja Ranjit Singh of Punjab (1834-44 A.D.) He also renovated the Jasmergarh fort situated between Tarnah and Bein nallahs near Hiranagar. The fort also housed tehsil and other government offices till they were shifted to Hiranagar after 1947. The town has a fast developing Industrial Esate and a modern Industrial Training Institute. The town as well as rural areas of the tehsil have emerged as pioneer in poultry development, agriculture and horticulture.

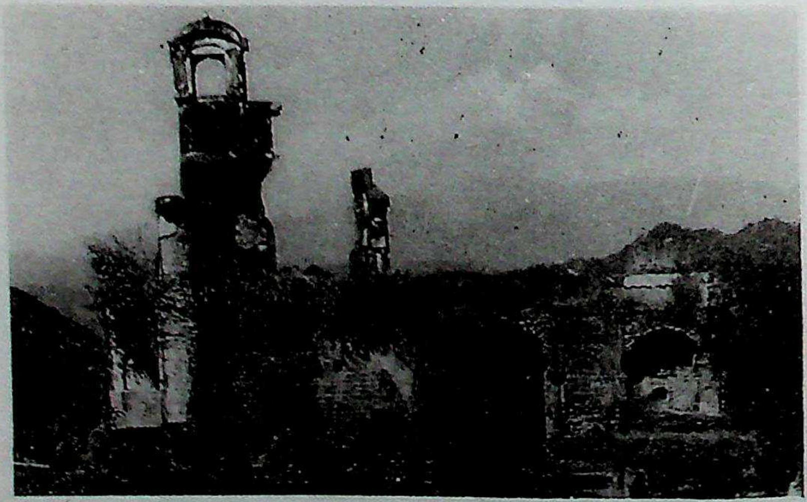


Shiv Mandir at Billawar

BILLAWAR: A tehsil headquater, Billawar was founded by Raja Bhopat Pal (1598-1614) and it remained capital of Basohli Rajas. The town has some ancient monuments. One of these is Mahabilvakeshwar temple one of the most revered Shiva temples of the area. It was known as Hari Hara temple also in the past but now known as Mahabilvakeshwar temple in view of abundance of bilva trees in the town and considered sacred for Lord Shiva. It is about 60 ft. high. The temple contains images of Brahama, Vishnu, 5-headed Shiva, Ganesha and Bhairavo. There are a large number of bowlies around the temple.

According to one belief Pandvas visited Billawar in the last year of their exile and were attracted by 'Bill' trees in which Billawar abounds. Temple Mahabilvakeshwar was built where Pandvas had worshipped.

BASOHLI: A small town and one of four tehsil headquarters of Kathua district, it is situated on the right bank of river Ravi at an altitude of 1876 ft. Founded by Raja Bhupat Paul sometime in 1635, it was known for magnificant places which are now in ruins and miniature paintings. These paintings which date back to 17th century, have acquired a place of respect in realm of art. In the ruins of palaces, colourful frescoes are still seen on the walls. There are some religious places in the area like Chanchelo Mata,



Basohli Fort

Visheshwar temple and Nilkanth temple which are visited by the people of the area. Another important thing associated with this town is Basohli's Pashmina shawls.

Sarthal:It is a beautiful meadow,situated at a height of 7200 ft. which remains covered with snow for nearly six months. The virgin and beauty of the area casts a fascinating spell to any visitor. The area is bounded by snow clad mountains and has water bodies which break the silence of the place. It is a part of an exciting trekking route and holds a promise of developing a good tourist spot after it is connected by a road with Bani and to Himachal Pradesh. It is located 20 Kms. from Bani.

Bani: Located at a height of 4200 ft. in the lap of lofty mountains and careassed by Sewa river, the picturesque small town is another potential area. It has a good climate and immense natural beauty. It is situated 87 Kms. from Basohli town and is linked by road. Having tremendous potential of becoming a good tourist spot, it is also base camp of trekkers who go to different routs like Bhaderwah, Machhedi etc.

Dhaggar: It is also a beautiful meadow which resembles with Gulmarg. Located 20 Kms. from Bani its height is about 7000 ft. It has no road but visitors have to trek or go on ponies to explore and feel natural beauty. Situated on the Bani-Dhaggar- Machhedi-Billawar circuit, it has captured imagination of many who have had the chance of visiting the place. Thick deodar covered hills overlooking the meadow make the place unimaginably beautiful.

Bhoond: It is located about 45 Kms. from Basholi on Basholi-Bani raod. It is common point for people going to Banjal, Challa, Bani, Jodia Mata, Ram Rachna and Dhoula Mata. It can serve as a breaking point for tourists visiting the area.A little further from Bhoond, there are hills covered with natural turf of lush green grass which can fascinate any visitor. After Bhoond, one reaches Siara which has a tremendous view overlooking Dalhousie, Chamera Dam and Thein Dam.

MACHHEDI: It is another place having considerable scenic beauty and has potential to be developed into a mini-hill station. Situated at a height of 5000 ft. it has salubrious climate and enthralling natural atmosphere. The Kurhan glides down from a backdrop of dense forests and mountains nearly 3 km. from Machhedi add to its natural charm. The water of this stream can be compared with that of Cheshma Shahi. This place is situated 30 km. from Billawar at an altitude of 5000 ft. It falls in a beautiful trekking route.

DUGGAN: Another beautiful spot with unmatched natural beauty is situated at an altitude ranging between 5000 ft. to 7000 ft. It is a charming Valley one km. in width and 5 km. in length with fresh water streams flowing from both sides and thick Deodar forests on northern side. It has high altitude meadows. This place falls on the way from Bani to Dhaggar. In this area is also located one old Nag temple from where annual yatra goes to Kailash Kund.

BANJAL: Banjal is a beautiful pass located at an altitude of 4500 ft. It is 9 kms. from Bhoond and 55 kms. from Basohli. Banjal has a thick crop of Banj (Oat), Deodar and fur trees. Fast winds sweep through Banjal during February-May and offers tremendous relief in summer. A small spring, Satsar, flows through the area. Road to Bani passes about a km. below. During March to May, the area becomes colourful with lot of flowers blooming. Some people call it "garden of natural flowers". A P.W.D. Rest House and Dak Bungalow are also available there.

CHANDEL: About 10 kms. from Bani it is situated on way to Sarthal by the side of Sewa river. It is a small village but beautiful spot having spring by the name of Chandel. There are small orchards of apple, almonds and walnuts. The temples of Tajji Mata and Chouri are situated about 2 to 3 kms from Chandel.

UJH: It is a fast developing beautiful picnic spot near the Ujh barrage, hardly 24 kms. from Kathua just near the national highway. The old fort of Jasrota has been cleaned up and renovated while a bird sanctuary is being developed on the bank of Ujh river.

CHHATARGALLA

It is the highest point on the Basohli-Bani-Bhaderwah road which has been constructed by the Border Roads Organisation. The Bani- Bhaderwah section of the road is now in the process of being further strengthened for heavy traffic. It is nearly 15 km from Sarthal with inspiring scenic beauty and alpine climate. Sandroon, 12 kms. from Bani, is another scenic spot in the area.

DULLANGAL

It is also situated on Bani-Billawar trek. It is a small beautiful Valley, 12 kms from Bani. Another 7 kms away is Derigala with salubrious climate and refreshing air.

DHAR MAHANPUR is a new emerging tourist resort. It is 27 kms. from Basohli. The spot is just like Dalhousie in Himachal Pradesh. It is situated on a hillock with towering Chir forests and virgin scenic beauty and wholesome climate.

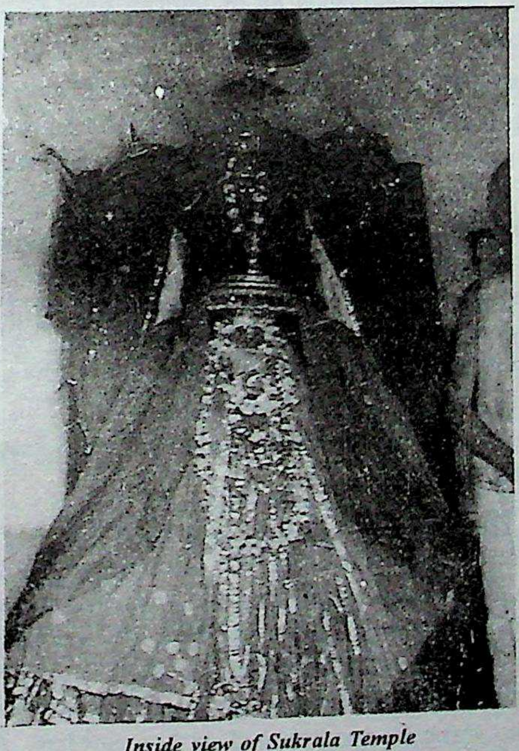
SANAN-GHAT

A small habitant on Basohli-Dhar Mahanpur road offers another tourist destination for tourists visiting Dhar-Mahanpur. It is situated at a height of 3700 ft. with temperate and healthy climate.

PLACES OF WORSHIP

SUKRALA MATA

The most famous shrine dedicated to mother goddess is Sukrala Devi shrine at a distance of 9.60 kms from Billawar. The shrine is located at a height of 3500 ft. on a hillock amidst sylvan surroundings. The white lime coated imposing edifice of the temple stands errect majestically. The pilgrims have



Inside view of Sukrala Temple

to scale flights of many steps to reach venerated temple. The holy shrine is the abode of goddess Mal Devi, the re-incarnation of Sharda Devi. The goddess has manifested herself here in the shape of a Shila (stone slab) seated on a brass lion with a silver mounted head. Behind it is also an image of Mahishasur Murdini (re-incarnation of Maha-Lakshmi) standing on the body of Mahishasur, the demon king. The goddess is four armed with a sword in one of her hands. Many legends are associated with the shrine. The holy shrine is believed to have been built by Madho Singh an exiled Prince of Chamba. The pilgrimage to the shrine is increasing every year. But during the Navratras the number goes up to over 60 thousand. Regular bus services during Navratras ply directly from Jammu, Kathua, Udhampur and Billawar. Sufficient and comfortable accommodation is available in the shape of Sarais of PWD, State Tourism Development Corporation and Shrine Management.

JOUDIAN-WALI MATA: is a religious centre which is visited by hundreds of pilgrims during Navratras. Voluntary groups help in providing basic facilities to pilgrims. Situated 4 kms. from Banjal, its altitude is about 7,250 ft. Joudian-Wali Mata commands lot of faith of local people. It is also a beautiful place, full of natural beauty.

DHOULA WALI MATA: Dhoula Wali Mata is another religious centre in the area. A large number of pilgrims come and offer their prayers, especially during Navratras. According to a popular belief, a Shepherd once dreamt that Mata had come to Mandhi Dhar. He went to Mandhi Dhar where Goddess gave darshan to him as a little girl. The shepherd started worshipping the Goddess regularly. It is said that once it snowed very heavily. The shepherd who was a regular worshipper ran to Mandhi Dhar to worship her. Realising the difficulty of the shepherd. The Goddess moved to the side where Dhoula Wali Mata is situated now. The shepherd built a temple at Dhoula Wali Mata also called Nukwali Mata. This place is located 10 kms. from Joudian-Wali Mata at a height of 6500 ft. People have to trek to reach this beautiful spot.

SHAKTI MATA temple is located in the healt of Bani town. Legend says that sheep/goats of a shephered would die whenever they came into contact with a stone in Sirah hamlet of Bani. The shephered intended to lift this stone in rage and throw it into the nearby Sewa stream. But when he arrived near the site, the stone grew so heavy that he had to drop it there. At night, the goddess came into his dream and commanded that a temple be built at the site and the stone be worshipped as her emblem. A big fair and community lunch are organised every year on Sharawan Sankranti in the temple.

MATA BALA SUNDARI

The historic holy shrine of Bala Ji Sundari is situated on the outskirts of village Parole, 13 kms. from Kathua. The temple is situated amidst a grove of mango trees. According to a legend, one Brahmin was cutting grass and his sickle struck with a stone which started oozing blood. A dream at night commanded him to place the stone under a Banyan tree for worship. The stone considered to be re-incarnation of holy goddess was later on enshrined in the temple. A fair is also held during holy Navratras.

MATA SUNDARI KOTE

The holy shrine is situated on a hill top having commanding view of surrounding landscape. It is situated on old Kathua-Billawar mule track. It is nearly 20 kms. from Kathua and 5 kms. from Bhin Bridge on Dhar-Udhampur road. The route passes through picturesque pine forests and wild bushy plants. The pilgrims have to negotiate 107 steps to reach the shrine. A Berry plant also exists near the temple. It is believed that the idol of goddess was found under this plant which was later on enshrined in the temple. The entire 5 kms track from Bhini Kala has been electrified.

JASROTA WALI MATA

The ancient temple of Maha Kali reconstructed a few years back has also emerged as a famous pilgrimage centre. The shrine of holy goddess is situated on a hillock on the outskirts of old Jasrota village, 5 kms from Raj Bagh on Jammu-Pathankote National Highway and 20 kms from Kathua. The rush of pilgrims touches several thousands during Navratra festivals.

CHAMUNDA DEVI

Chamunda Devi temple is located near the main chowk in Basohli town. The goddess is worshipped here in the shape of natural rock. It is highly venerated by the people.

Other prominent shrines of the holy goddess are Asha Purni and Santoshi Mata temples at Kathua and Jandi and Kali Mata temple in Jasmergar fort near Hiranagar.

NARSIMHA TEMPLE GHAGWAL

The Narsimha, the re-incarnation of Bagwan Vishnu in his unified form of lion and man has been artistically idolised in a temple at Ghagwal. Ghagwal is located on Jammu-Pathankote National Highway, 35 Kms from Kathua. It is most popular and rare temple of its type with a huge water pond near it. Fairs are held on Janamashtmi and Makarsakranti. During the fairs, people from hilly areas organise sales of their woollen products including blankets and handicrafts etc. Another Narsimha temple is at Kough,12 Kms from Mandi on Dhar-Udhampur road. The most interesting aspect of this temple is that it has Harijan as priest. Another old Narsimha temple is located at Parnala on Dhar-Udhampur raod.

MAHABILVA-KESHWAR TEMPLE, BILLAWAR

This most famous Shiva shrine dates back to antiquity. Formerly known as the Hari-Hara temple, it has Shiv-Trimurti. Located in the heart of Billawar town, the temple is called Mahabilvaveshwar in view of abundance of Bilva trees in the area. It is believed that God Shiva is highly pleased when Bilva leaves, known as Bil-Patri in local parlance, are offered to him. The temple spire is about 60 ft. high over a square sanctum. The temple has a number of other images like that of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva (5-headed), Ganesh and Bhairav. The temple edifice has been built with chiselled and dressed stones which have been crumbling of late. The Archaeological Department has taken up gigantic task of restoring the temple to its original shape and glory.

MAHANAL is the most popular Shiva cave shrine located nearly one km from village Jakhole on right bank of river Ujh. There are about a dozen naturally formed Shiva lingams in the cave which are watered by the perennially oozing water from the ceiling of the cave. Legend says that originally milk used to ooz from the cave ceiling. But once a Gujri filled her milkpot with this milk and sold it in the market. The next day the milk stopped oozing and it took the form of water which is still oozing.

SHIVA TEMPLE AIRWAN

The other famous Shiva temple is located at Airwan near Parole, nearly 15 Kms from Kathua. The 4th century old temple is believed to have been constructed by King Vikramaditya. The Airwan village bears its name after the River Ravi, the ancient Iravati, which flows at some distance from the place. Fairs are held here on Shivratri and Vishaki. There are large number of bowlies near the temple where the pilgrims take bath before worship. People who cannot afford to visit Haridwar immerse ashes of the dead in the holy water known as 'Gupt Ganga'.

NEELKANTH MAHADEV TEMPLE AT BASOHLI is also famous Shiva shrine. It was built by Raja Bhupat Paul of Basohli near Palace about five centuries ago. The Shiva idol is believed to have been brought from Kishtwar by the Raja who was marrried to the Kishtwar Princess. Other important Shiva temples in the District are at Kathua, Sumaon and Jandi. Surgal Baba shrine and Nag Devta shrines are also located at several places. Bua Bagan, martyr shrine near Tharakalwal village on Dhar-Udhampur road is also one of the venerated shrines.

PANJTIRTHI is the most venerated place of river pilgrimage located at the confluence of five rivers namely Ujh, Bhini, Talain, Naaj and Khad about 2.50 Km. below Bhaddu town. A big fair is being held here every year on Chet Chaudas (March-April) for last so many centuries. An old Shiv temple located on the small rock located in the midst of the confluence further enhances the holiness of the place.

Another place of river pilgrimate is located at Backon, 5 kms short of Bani on Basohli-Bani raod. It is the confluence (Sangam) of two rivers namely Sewa and Khaad. People usually visit to have a holy dip at the Sangam on auspicious days.

PEER FAZAL SHAH: The Ziarat of holy Peer is located in Parlibund, Kathua. A big fair is held on 24th of Kartik every year. People irrespective of religious faiths visit the shrine to seek blessings.

Peer Chhatar Shah Ziarat is located near Parole, 13 Kms from Kathua. A bath in the spring near the shrine is considered to cure skin diseases.A Peer khana and a mosque are also in Chodilava village near Basohli. Pir Baba Lakhdatta Ziarat, in Bani Chowgan under Goontree is also venerated place.

TREKKING ROUTES: There are numerous thrilling trekking routes mostly in and around Bani area which pass through virgin mountain areas of beauty. Some of these routes are:

Predumnan R. Joseph Dhar
M.A. (Eng., Pol. Sc., His; Eco.;)
B.Ed; LLB.

A) BANI-SARTHAL-BHADERWAH TREK. Bani (ht. 4200 ft) Lowang (12 Kms) -Sarthal (10 kms) - Chattargalla (12 Kms. ht. 10,000 ft) -Sirtingal (9 kms) -Bhaderwah.

B) BANI-DHAGGAN-MACHHEDI TREK. Bani-Khajar (3 kms. ht. 5000 ft) - Duggan(4 kms. Ht. 4500 ft)- Dullangal (6 kms.Ht.5,000 ft). Dhaggan

(6 kms. Ht. 7,000 ft, Srola(3 kms.), Kmlogh. Gallah (4 km Ht. 10000 ft). Bandnota (6 kms. Ht. 6,000 ft) - Macchedi (6 kms. Ht. 5,000 ft.).

C) BANI-DHAGGAR - KAILASH TREK. Bani-Dhaggar (as above)-Baskund (Ht. 17,000 ft.) or to Mandhi Dhar(Ht. 10,000 ft.)-Kailash(10 hours trek from Dhaggar).

D) BANI-KHAJAR-BANI. It is 3 hours trek.

E) BANI-SUNDROON-BANI. It is soft trek upto Sundroon 12 Kms. away.

F) BANI-CHATTAR GALLA - BASKUND. This is a comparatively tuff trek. It is 8 kms. distance from Chattargalla (1000 ft.) to Baskund (17,000 ft.).

G) SIARA-BANJAL-KHAJAR-BANI. Siara-Challa(4 kms. Ht. 7,000 ft.) -Banjal (2 kms.) -Jodia Mata(2 kms.) - Dhoula Mata(10 kms.) -Khajar (6 kms., Ht. 5,000 ft) - Bani.

FAIRS AND FESTIVALS

The district is culturally an integrated part of Jammu region and all important religious fairs like Lohri, Maha Shivaratri, Id-ul-Fitr, Holi, Ramnavmi, Baisakhi, Martyr's day of Guru Arjun Dev, Raksha Bandan, Janam Ashtami, Mahanavami, Dussehra, Diwali are observed with religious fervour and gaiety. Besides, Muslim festivals like Id-ul-Fitr, Id-ul-Zuha are also celebrated. Guru Ravi Dass's Birth Day, Mahatma Gandhi's Birth Day, Guru Govind Singh's Birth Day are observed with the same spirit. Above all, the Independence Day and Republic Day are also celebrated with great enthusiasm. Holy Navratras also provide special occasion for worship and pilgrimage to holy places culminating into small to big fairs. Ram Lilas are organised in every small and big town as well as villages. The most famous one is performed at Basohli in the most natural, intimate and artistic way. A set of stages set up for depiction of different scenes is unique and unmatched.

NEW LANDMARKS

TOLL PLAZA LAKHANPUR

A modern Toll Plaza is fast comming up at Lakhanpur at a cost of Rs.3.66 crores. The Finance Minister, Mr. Mohammad Shafi laid the foundation of the Plaza on February 5,1997. The Plaza which is likely to be completed by the end of March,1998 will have all the modern facilities to ensure clearance of vehicles within seconds. As against one lane each for incoming and outgoing traffic at present, the new Plaza will segregate it in 15 lanes including five for incoming and four for outgoing goods traffic. Besides, two lanes each for buses; cars and army traffic will also be laid The entire process of toll verification is being computerised.

DISTRICT HOSPITAL COMPLEX: The first phase of the District Hospital Complex has been completed at a cost of Rs. 1.03 crores. Important Departments/ Wings from existing District Hospital are being shifted to the new complex shortly. The gigantic project envisages construction of 200 bedded hospital at an estimated cost of Rs. 7.90 crores in phases.

NEW BUS STAND: The most modern and spacious bus stand has come up at Kathua under Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns Programme at a cost of Rs. 93 lakhs. The bus stand has the capacity to accommodate 400 buses at a time. Besides, a big shopping complex comprising 74 shops is being raised in the complex.

VEGETABLE MARKET: A vegetable market is also being constructed at Kathua under IDSMT at a cost of Rs. 40 lakhs. In all, 16 shops have been constructed in the market and auctioned.

RECREATION PARK: A beautiful recreation Park " The Dream" has come up along Kathua canal over 24 Kanals of area. It has been linked with a 1.5 kms. long black topped road, which takes off from canal bridge near District Offices Complex. A cafeteria has also been opened. Water rafting has also been introduced with two boats provided by the Tourism Department.

MAHANPUR-BASOHLI ROAD : A 32 Kms. long road from Mahanpur to Basohli has been constructed to provide road link to Basohli town. The project is likely to cost Rs.17.19 crores. This new road takes off from Dhar-Udhampur road and will take the place of the existing Kathua-Basohli road which will get submerged with the construction of Ranjit Sagar Dam at Thein.

SUB-DISTRICT HOSPITAL HIRANAGAR

A double-storey new block in Sub District Hospital at Hiranagar is nearing completion at a cost Rs.21 lakhs. This will accommodate 30 bedded indoor ward and operation theatre. A 30-bedded double-storey Sub-District Hospital at Billawar is fully completed during 1996-97 at a total cost of Rs.87 lakhs.

FACE LIFT OF KATHUA

As part of facelift programme, sodium vapour lights are being installed along Kalibari-Kathua-Hatli Morh road at a total cost of Rs.22 lakhs. Rs.9 lakhs have already been released for the purpose. Besides, a double storey shopping complex comprising 20 shops near PWD colony has been constructed under IDSMT programme and stand auctioned. in addition, two major covered nallahs have been constructed in the town at a cost of Rs.22 lakhs under IDMT programme.

KATHUA BY-PASS

The 754 metre long Kathua By-pass has been constructed at a cost of Rs. 1.28 crores. A double-lane 110 metre long concrete bridge over khad nallah has also been constructed. The by-pass has reduced congestion in the town which ensured smooth flow of traffic.

GALLANTRY AWARD WINNERS

The district has produced excellent warriors who have distinguished themselves in courage and valour in many theatres of war. They have brought laurals not for themselves alone but for whole of the district and the country. A good number of our brave soldiers have also received gallantry awards like Ashok Chakra, Vir Chakra, Shurya Chakra, Sena Medal, Victoria Cross, Military Cross, Indian Distinguished Medal, Indian Order of Merit, Vishisht Seva Medal and Mention-in-Despatches.

The lone Victoria Cross winner from the district was Jam. Prakash Singh of Hiranagar who received this coveted award during second World War.

Ashoka Chakra awardees from the district are Sepoy Janak Singh and Hav. Balwan Singh. Other gallantry award winners from various parts of the district include six Vir Chakra, two Shurya Chakra, six Sena Medal, eight Mention-in-despatches, two Order of Merit, two M.R.E. one Vishest Seva Medal, two Military Cross and three Indian Distinguished Awards.

COMPERATIVE STATEMENT OF YEAR WISE EXPENDITURE (IN LAKH)

Sector	Expdt. 92-93	Expdt. 93-94	Expdt. 94-95	Expdt. 95-96	Outlay 96-97	Expdt. 96-97	Expdt. 92-97
Agriculture & Allied Service	273.52	284.89	337.83	372.76	418.60	413.53	1682.53
Rural Dev.	42.79	75.31	86.83	155.07	185.92	312.19	672.18
Industries	66.74	65.31	68.99	87.28	92.64	103.57	391.89
Communication.	139.61	191.23	209.96	235.39	273.49	360.46	1136.65.
Energy	31.00	131.00	199.81	266.63	195.00	199.61	828.05
Social & Gen.Services	846.24	821.61	865.41	1088.33	1319.86	1349.11	4970.70
Others	-	1.60	2.71	7.76	3.23	3.21	11.28
Total:-	**1399.89**	**1570.95**	**1771.54**	**2209.22**	**2488.74**	**2741.68**	**9693.28**

WHO'S WHO

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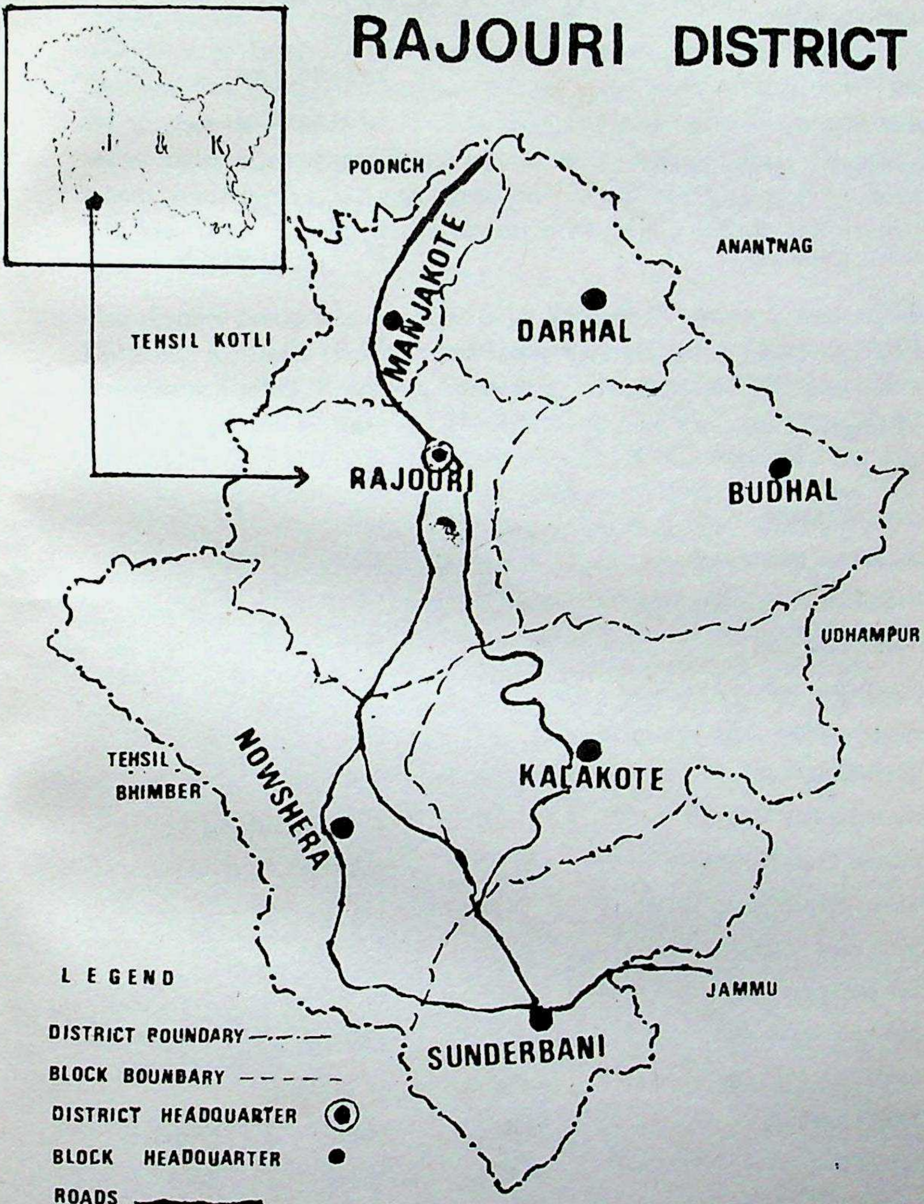
	Office	Residence
Mr. Ajat Shatru Singh,	Sgr. 479124	455050
Tourism Minister Chairman, District Development Board,	Jammu 549677	543303
Mr. Surjit Singh Salathia, MOS for Cooperation and Animal Husbandry/Jammu Vice Chairman, District Dev. Board	Sgr. 455316 549670	462243
Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta, M.P.	Jammu	432544
Malik Ghulam Hyder Dy. Speaker, Legislative Assembly.	Jammu 554045	

Code 01922 Kathua

Mr. Nand Lal, Vice Chairman Scheduled Castes Advisory Board, Chhan Rorian (Kathua)	—	5231
Mr. Balbir Singh, M.L.A.	-	-
Ch. Lal Singh, M.L.A.	34082	-
Mr. Prem Lal, M.L.A.	-	P.P. 4532
Mr. Sagar Chand, M.L.A.	-	8175
Dy. Commissioner	34007	34006
Supdt. of Police	34010	34011
District & Session Judge	34209	34201
S.E., (Irrigation),	2249	-
Distt. Information Officer	2231	2231

RAJOURI DISTRICT


J & K
POONCH
ANANTNAG
MANJAKOTE
DARHAL
TEHSIL KOTLI
RAJOURI
BUDHAL
UDHAMPUR
TEHSIL BHIMBER
NOWSHERA
KALAKOTE
JAMMU
SUNDERBANI
LEGEND
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
BLOCK BOUNDARY
DISTRICT HEADQUARTER
BLOCK HEADQUARTER
ROADS

RAJOURI AT A GLANCE

Area		2,630 Sq. Kms
Forest Area		1,304 Sq. Kms
Population	(1981 census)	3,02,500 Lakh
	(1991 Est.)	4,17,033 Lakh
Literacy percentage		24.73 (1981 census)
Tehsils		6
Blocks		7
Towns		4
Panchayats		158
Villages		381
Inhabited villages		375
Educational Institutions		963
Health Centres including ISM		196
Villages Electrified		351
Villages provided drinking water		374
Villages covered under Agrarian Reforms		370
Land holding		56,876
Area under H Y V Crop		84,531 Hects.
Principal Crop/Staple Food		Wheat
Families assisted under IRDP		15,655
Ration Card holders		0.85 lakh
Bank branches		49
Live-stock population		3.89 lakh
Annual Plan 1997-98		31.79 Crores

Electorate(1998)	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Kalakot	34145	29930	64075
Rajouri	52716	43226	95942
Darhal	39152	34714	73866
Nowshera	37860	33100	70960
Total	**163873**	**140970**	**304843**

Rajouri district is located between 70 degree and 74 degree -4' East longitude and 32 degree -58' and 33 degree-35' north latitude. It is flanked by Poonch district in the north, Jammu district in the south, Udhampur district in the east and Pak occupied Kashmir (Mirpur area) in the west. Carved out of the district of Poonch in 1968 to facilitate process of development and better supervision, Rajouri district has an area of 2630 Sq. km. with six tehsils, seven blocks, 158 panchayats and 381 villages. Rajouri Town, located 154 km. from Jammu, is the largest town of the district and serves as district headquarters.

The district comprises six tehsils of Rajouri, Nowshera, Thanamandi, Kalakote, Kotranka (Budhal) and Sunderbani and seven blocks of Rajouri, Nowshera, Darhal, Kotranka, Sunderbani, Kalakote and Majakote. As per 1981 census out of the total population of 3.02 lakh the population of Muslims was 58% (i.76 lakh) Hindus 39% (1.19 lakh) and Sikhs and others 3%. The cultivators and agriculture labourers were 61,165 and 1,079 respectively. As per survey conducted by Registrar General,Census Operations, Government of India in 1987, the scheduled tribe population was 1,04,240. The estimated population however, of the district as on March 1991 was 4.17 lakh which accounts for 5.42% of the total estimated population of the State. The urban population comes to 0.219 lakh (5.3%) and the rural population figures at 3.967 lakh (94.7%). The density of population is 159 persons per Sq. Kilometer. Rajouri tehsil is the largest and Sunderbani the least population tehsil of the district. The district has shown decennial growth of 39.16% between 1971 and 1981.

The district with an area of 2,630 Sq. Kilometers has peculiar physical features. The Dhaula Dhar range runs across the north eastern part of the district and topography of Rajouri. Budhal and part of Kalakote tehsils consists of numerous hills and small valley of meandering brooks. The tehsils of Sunderbani, Nowshera and Kalakote mostly plain and Kandi lie in the south and hilly Budhal tehsil in the north east of the district.

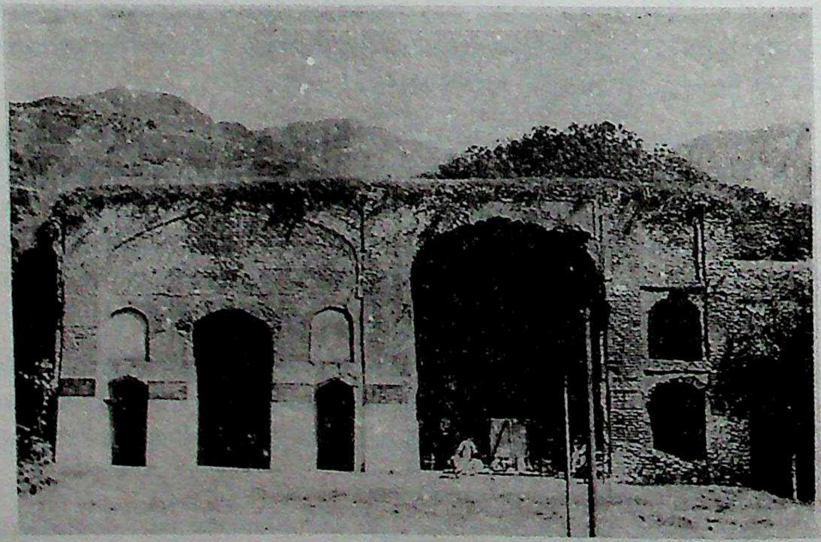
District Rajouri offers a representative character of the State in clime, culture and secular outlook. The district presents a composite culture - Pahari, Gojri, Dogra and Kashmiri. Irrespective of ethnic groups all speak the pahari language with ease.

The climate varies from semi-tropical in the southern part comprising Nowshera, Sunderbani and Kalakote to temperate in the mountainous northern part encompassing the areas of Rajouri, Budhal and Darhal blocks of the district. The sub-tropical region receives regular monsoons whereas the northern part prone to hailstorms experiences excessive rains. The average rainfall is 500 mm and the average temperature varies from a minimum of 7.4 to maximum of 37.4 degree celsius. The district is drained by small rivers. The Sukh Tawi, the Darhal Tawi, the Khandli, the Ans and the Jamola are worth mentioning. The mountainous and undulating terrain makes it very difficult to tap and utilize the available water potential for irrigation.

Rajouri has witnessed both the patronage as well as carnage of the time. The remnants of fortified Mughal inns at Nadhpur, Chingus, Rajouri, Fatehpur and Thanamandi are a pleasant reflection of the glorious days of the place when it used to be a camping site for the Royal Mughal entourage proceeding towards Kashmir Valley. But it also recasts a heart rending picture of the dark days of barbarism at the hands of Pakistani marauders close on the heels of country's independence.

HISTORY

Rajouri area remained the region of great importance in ancient times. In Mahabharta there was a kingdom known as Panchal Desa. The king of this State was Panchal Naresh whose daughter Dropdi was married to Pandvas.



Rajouri Fort

The historians identify Panchaly Desha as the region in Panchal range of mountains. Rajouri was also a part of this kingdom of Panchal Naresh.

Rajouri, then known as Rajapuri- the land of Rajas- finds it mention in the travelogue of Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsang who visited the town in 632 A.D. and described it as a part of Kashmiri dominion. Still earlier in the Buddhist period it formed a part of Gandhar territory (Afghanistan, Gahdhar and Tashkand) and later was included in the domain called Darabhisanga which comprised the hilly stretch from Poonch to Kashmir. Those days Laharkote in Poonch district and Rajouri had emerged as two powerful states of the area.

F.E.Pargitor says that second branch of Aryan emigrants crossed the Himalayas in the north and west and settled in Rajouri and Poonch area. Rajouri, Bhimber and Naushera were included within the territory of Abhisar which was one of the hill states of Punjab Kingdom. Early records of fragmentary nature show that in 4th century B.C. there existed in the north west of India a federal type of political set up in which Abhisar with its capital Rajouri was also included. At the time of Alexander's invasion, Rajouri was at the height of its glory. In Mauryan period, the town of Rajouri was a great trading centre. Hiuen Tsang who travelled through this area in 7th Century A.D. mentioned that the hill states of Rajouri and 11th Century A.D. Rajouri was ruled by Chiefs of the Pala dynasty under the Suzerainty of Kashmir. In 1097 A.D. Harsha of Kashmir called a council of the rulers of his neighbouring dependencies and Kalhan mentions that among those who attended this meeting was Raja Sangrampaul of Rajouri. During the Mughal rule, the rulers of Rajouri had embraced Islam though they retained the title of Raja.

Alhaurni visited Rajouri with Sultan Masud (Son of Sultan Mehmud) in 1036 A.D. He wrote in his book 'India' the name Rajouri as Raja Vari. Srivar, the writer of Raj Tirangini written during the regime of Sultan Zain-ul-Abdin, also named this area as Raja Vari. It appears that Raja Vari is the changed shape of Raj Puri. Praja Bhat another writer of Raj Tirangini of 16th century A.D. wrote this place as Raj-Vare in his book. Mirza Zafarulla Khan writer of Tarikh Rejgan-e-Rajour described in his book that this place was originally known as Raj-Avar and then the name changed from Raj-Avar to Rajour and now this name has again changed from Rajour to Rajouri but the old peoplein the villages still call the place as Rajour. With the passage of time the name changed from Raja's Raj Avar to Raj Puri, Rajpuri to Raj Vari, Raj Vari to Raj Vara. Raj Vare to Raj Avar, Raj Avar to Rajour and then

Rajour to Rajouri. As per Rajtirangini of Kalhan, Rajouri emerged as principality in about 1003 A.D. The first ruler of this kingdom was Raja Prithvi Paul. From 1003 A.D. to 1194 A.D. this State was ruled by these Pauls. They were Raja Prithvipaul, Raja Janki Paul (1035 A.D.) Raja Sangram Paul (1063 A.D) Raja Som Paul (1101 A.D), Bahu Paul (1113 A.D.) and Amna Paul (1194 A.D) Raja Prithiv Paul defended Pir Panchal Pass at the time of invasion of Sultan Mehmud in 1021 A.D. Raja Sangram Paul defended his Principality Rajouri when Raja Harash of Kashmir assaulted his country in 1089 A.D Sangram Paul fought so bravely that Raja Harash was compelled to return from Prithvi Paul fort without capturing Rajouri.

As per Tarikh Rajgan-Rajour in 1194 A.D Raja Amna was the ruler of Rajouri. One of his Durbari Noor-ud-Din who migrated from Punjab to Rajouri revolted against Raja Amna Paul. Raja Amna Paul was killed in this revolt and Noor-ud-Din become the Raja of Rajouri. By this was Raja Noor-ud-Din laid the foundation of Jaral Muslim rule in Rajouri in 1194 A.D. to 21 October 1846 A.D. Rajouri Principality remained governed by Jaral Rajas. The renowned Rajas of this dynasty were Raja Noor-ud-Din (1194 A.D.) Raja Anwar Khan (1252 A.D.), Raja Sardar Khan (1289 A.D.), Raja Shah-ud-Din (1412 A.D) Raja Mast Wali Khan (1565 A.D) Raja Taj-ud-Din (1604 A.D.), Raja Anayat Ullah Khan (1648 A.D), Raja Azmat Ullah Khan (1683 A.D.), Raja Izzat Ullah Khan (1762 A.D), Raja Karam Ullah Khan (1767 A.D), Raja Aggar Ullah Khan (1808 A.D), and Raja Rahim Ullah Khan (1819 A.D) Raja Rahim Ullah Khan was the last Muslim ruler of Rajouri who governed this principality up to 21st October 1846.

Rajouri city was rebuilt by Jaral Muslim Rajas during their rule. Number of Forts, Sarais, Mosques and Baradaries were constructed with the help of Mughals on Mughal road. The area of Rajouri Principality comprised proper Rajouri, Thanna, Bagla Azim Garh, Darhal, Behrote, Chingus, Nagrota and Phalana etc. The total revenue of Rajouri was Rs.3 lacs in 1846. Raja Aggar Ullah Khan (1808 to 1819) fought bravely first against Maharaja Ranjit Singh in 1815 and then Raja Gulab Singh in 1819. These Muslim Rajas were very liberal and very accommodating Raja Azmat Ullah was having Hindu minister of Mehta family of Rajouri. Hindu Rajputs were given preference at the time of employment in armed forces.

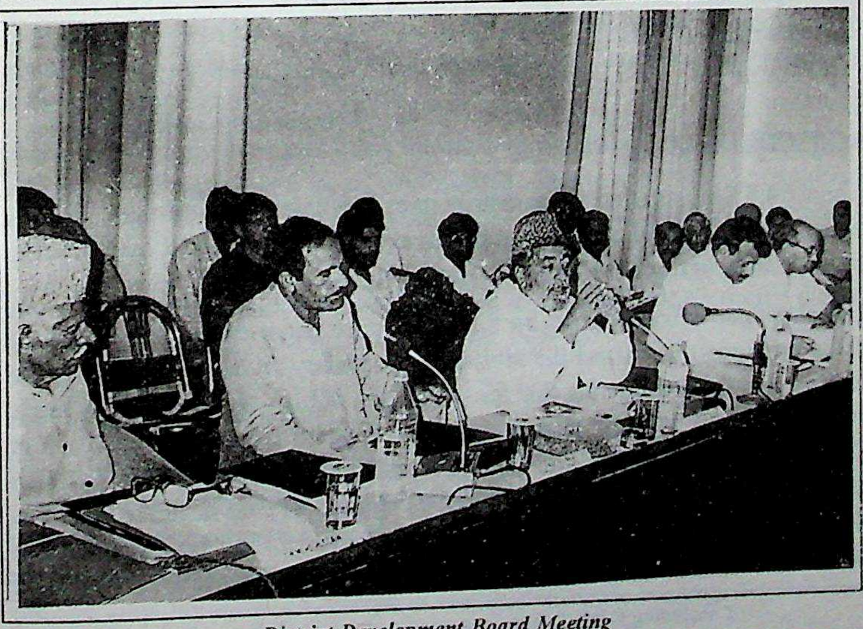
The successive rulers were also responsible for the proper upkeep of Mughal route from Gujarat to Kashmir dotted by a dozen stations in between. The town also called Rampur as per the revenue documents, gained popularity during the Mughal period as the Mughal rulers, during their movement from Delhi to Kashmir and back used to stay at the station for some time.

In 1846 Amritsar pact was signed between British Government and Raja Bulab Singh of Jammu. In the light of this pact Jammu and Kashmir State was handed over to Raja Gulab Singh and he was designated as Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir.

After taking the charge of Rajouri from Raja Faqir Ullah in 1846, Maharaja Gulab Singh changed the name of Rajouri and renamed it as Rampur. He appointed Mian Hathu as a Governor of Rajouri. Mian Hathu remained in Rajouri upto 1856 A.D. He constructed a beautiful temple in-between Thanna Nalla near Rajouri city. He also built Rajouri fort at Dani Dhar village. After Mian Hathu Rajouri was converted into a Tehsil and affiliated with Bhimber district. In 1904 A.D. this Tehsil was bifurcated from Bhimber and affiliated with Reasi district. After independence Rajouri become part of newly constituted Poonch-Rajouri district. On 1st January 1968, Rajouri emerged as a new district on the map of the State.

DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

Rajouri district has six tehsils, seven blocks,381 villages, (six uninhabited,) 158 Panchayats and four small towns of Rajouri, Nowshera, Sunderbani and Thanamandi, managed by the Notified Area Committees.



District Development Board Meeting

With a view to involving majority of population in planning and implementation of development-cum-employment projects and welfare schemes, planning has been decentralized to grassroot level to incorporate local priorities in the annual plans. This decentralized planning after the introduction of single line administration has yielded tangible results in harmonious development of all the areas of the district. There has been about five fold increase in plan allocations since 1984-85. While the annual plan in 1984-85 was of the order of 5.84 crores which was increased to Rs. over 31.79 crores for 1997-98 financial year.

District Plan 1997-98

(Rs.in lakhs)

S.No.	Sector	Outlay	Expenditure (Provisional)
1.	Agriculture & Allied Services	522.72	447.24
2.	Rural Development	402.26	813.09 *
3.	Industries	84.54	85.25
4.	Communication	296.71	335.25
5.	Energy	151.00	151.00
6.	Social & Gen.Services	1716.40	1517.17
7.	Others	5.90	5.27
	Total:	**3179.53**	**3354.55**

(Including additionalities)

AGRICULTURE

About 94.8% population of the district lives in villages. Accordingly, 73.29% of the district's population is engaged in agriculture. The departmental setup consists of 5 agriculture Sub-Division, 17 Zones and 87 Circles.

The sustained efforts put in by the agriculture department and its T & V Wing have revolutionized the attitude of peasantry from static to scientific temper. It is this awakening that the utilization of high yielding variety seeds of maize, wheat, paddy, pulses etc. have doubled from 2,574 quintals in 1985-86 to 5,178 quintals in 1994-95 and the area under HYV has also bulged to 84,531 hectares in 1996-97 as against 41,360 hectares in 1985-86. Wheat, the principal crop, is cultivated over 34550 hectares and the other two main crops of maize and paddy over 32885 hectares and 7110 hectares respectively.

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* including Central share sponsored under IRD, JRY and EAS

An area of 23.50 hectares have been brought under demonstration plots during 1996-97.

During 1996-97, 4271 tonnes of chemical fertilizers were distributed, and 1,628 farmers were trained in modern farming techniques at 32 Farmer's Training Camps besides production of 52.50 quintals of honey and 27.50 quintals of mushroom, 30 bio-gas plants had been established. An allocation of about Rs.1.16 crores including Rs.89 lakh under T & V programme has been spent for the agriculture sector for 1996-97.

HORTICULTURE

During the 8th Five Year Plan, 6.75 lakh fruit plants will be planted in an area of 3,050 hectares.

A significant scroll of 7564 hectares is under fruit plantation in the district up to ending March 1997. Of this, 4561.50 hectares is under fresh fruit and 3012.50 hectares under dry fruit plants.

In 1996-97, 575 hectares have been covered under new fruit plantation. This include 317.50 hectares under fresh fruit and 275.50 hectares under dry fruits.

The fruits grown in the district are walnut, almond, pecanut, apple, pear, plum, apricot, peach, lime, mango, pomegranate, kinnow, orange, berry, banana, fig and guava.

Strawberry cultivation has been introduced and four demonstration plots of one kanal each have been established. There are three horticulture nurseries and closures and last year 35,417 fruit saplings were raised in these nurseries.

A sum of Rs.53.47 lakh has been incurred in the horticulture sector during 1995-96 and Rs.61.250 lakh spent during 1996-97.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

80 veternary and extension centres besides one Clinical Laboratory, one Artificial Breeding Station and a Mobile Rinderpest unit are functioning to meet the diverse requirements of cattle population which according to 1988 census was 2.13 lakh including cross breed population of 45500 cattle. 79 per cent population of the district is engaged in cattle rearing.

Only LN 2 Plant imported from Holland has been installed at Rajouri.

An amount of RS.28 lakh has been spent in 1996-97 for Animal Husbandry activities in the district.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY

An estimated 35,000 families of the district are engaged in sheep and goat rearing.

The district has a sheep and goat population of 5.63 lakh. This includes 1.56 lakh cross-breed and 4.07 lakh local sheep and goats. It has fifty sheep centres five of which are mobile.

Last year 2.78 lakh kgs. of wool and 18.69 lakh kgs. of mutton was produced. Correspondingly 3.78 lakh sheep and goat were treated against different diseases and 1.23 lakh were vaccinated.

During the year 1996-97 an expenditure of Rs.32.26 lakh was incurred in this sector against Rs.25.54 lakh spent during 1995-96 in the district.

AGRARIAN REFORMS

The agrarian reforms work has been consummated in 370 villages of the district till March 1995. Levy worth Rs.25.36 lakh against the demand of Rs.27.66 lakh has been recovered from prospective owners out of which Rs.19.96 lakh stands paid to the ex-owners and Rs.2.51 lakh incurred as administrative charges.

Ownership rights have been transferred to 34820 prospective owners over 2,96,822 kanals of land. Agiculture land measuring 618 kanals has been declared surplus. So far 28860 revenue pass books have been distributed among the farmers in the district.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

By ending March 1996, 15891 families had been assisted under IRDP in the district. A total subsidy of Rs.315.94 lakh has been provided to the beneficiaries till 3/96 besides loan component of Rs.539.54 lakhs. In the district 445 rural youth have been trained under TRYSEM during 1996-97 who were paid Rs.10.34 lakhs as stipend.

DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

The programme of Development of Women and Children in Rural Area

(DWCRA) was introduced in the district in 1994-95. The DWCRA was able to form 117 DWCRA groups of about 1200 women with a financial involvement of Rs.17.55 lakh. Each group was provided Rs.15,000 as revolving fund. During 1996-97,529 income generating units have been set up.

Under TRYSEM programme 426 youth have been trained in various skills/ trades besides 43 ladies farmer groups have been formed during the year 1996-97.

JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJNA AND EAS

An amount of Rs.785.00 lakh has been spent during last six years on execution of 6535 rural works. This has resulted in the generation of 15.52 lakhs mandays. During the period (1991-92) to 1996-97) 870 houses have been constructed under Indira Awas Yojna in the district.

Simultaneously since the introduction of Employment Assurance Scheme,1275 works have been executed at an expenditure of Rs.1209.52 lakh resulting in the generation of 28.64 lakh mandays.

During 1996-97, under JRY, 522 works have been executed. These includes 109 Million Well construction of 392 houses under IAY and 37 houses under Rural Housing Scheme generating 2.22 lakh mandays while as under EAS 580 works have been executed providing an employment of 8.24 lakh mandays to 9315 persons.

BORDER AREA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Four blocks - Rajouri, Manjakote, Sunderbani and Nowshera are the border blocks in the district.

Phase I of the BADP started during 1994-95 in the border blocks involving an expenditure of Rs.130.27 lakh. In the phase I, 10 Primary School buildings and two Middle School buildings were taken up. Twenty one High and Higher Secondary Schools were provided scientific kits. One ambulance and one X-ray plant was provided to Nowshera Sub-District Hospital whereas one X-ray plant was given to Sunderbani Sub-District Hospitial. Sixty four border villages were provided solar lights and Rural Sanitation Programme was carried out in eleven villages.

The Phase II of the BADP targets construction of 28 Primary School buildings, provision of one ambulance and one x-ray machine to Manjakote

PHC, installation of solar lights in 22 villages and upgradation of existing border roads.

TRIBAL SUB-PLAN

The district has a major bulk of scheduled tribe population in the Jammu and Kashmir State. As per survery conducted by the Registrar General of India in 1987 it was 1.05 lakh with 96,934 Gujjars and 8,020 Bakwerwals which comes to 30% of the total population of the district.

An amount of Rs.3.70 crore has been incurred under TSP since 1993 to March,1997 in various sectors like agriculture, live stock, horticulture, soil conservation, rural development, power and social forestry.

During 1976-77 an expenditure of Rs.107.68 lakh was incurred on the execution of 78 community development works, eelctrification of 22 hamlets, water supply to five hamlets, establishment of 75 sheep units, 60 poultry units besides planting 1.22 lakh plants under social forestry, orchard development and soil conservation etc.

EDUCATION

The number of educational institutions in the district has risen to 963 which includes One Degree College, 15 Higher Secondary Schools, 84 High Schools, 183 Middle Schools, 647 Primary Schools, 22 Central Schools and 62 Mobile Schools. The literacy percentage is 34.6 and an amount of Rs.730.53 lakh has been spent in the district for Elementry Education, Secondary Adult and teachers Education.

There are 285 Adult Education centres functioning in the district.

The district has 1,35,248 literates (70325 male and 64523 female) upto March 1996, 63910 adults comprising 30474 male and 3353 female were made literate. Out of the adults made literate 4986 were from scheduled caste and 38008 were from scheduled tribe category.

The district has also one District Institute of Education and Trainings at district headquarters and Jawahar Navodaya Vidalaya at Kotranka besides two Industrial Training Institutes.

HEALTH

As against 34 Health Centres in the year 1976-77 there are about 202 Health Centres throughout the length and breadth of the district at present. These comprise one District Hospital, three Sub-District Hospitals, 20 Primary Health Centres, 23 Indian System of Medicine Dispensaries, 19 Allopathic Dispensaries, 115 Sub-Centres and 21 other Medical Centres.

During the year 1996-97 an amount of Rs. 164.93 lakh has been spent on this sector. Provided treatment to 52483 outdoor and 14798 indoor patients. At present, 23 ISM dispensaries which are providing not only treatment but also playing an appreciable role in the implementation of National Programme like Family Welfare, MCH & immunisation in the district etc.

The district has many herbs which are used for curing different types of ailments. The medicinal herbs found are banafsha, kakra singhi, vasa, apamarg, punernava ghirit kumari, daru haldi, simbloo, neem, timbroo, brahmi, amla, harar and bahera.

FORESTS

The district has demarcated forest area of 1,204 Sq. Kilometers covering almost half of the geographical area of the district. Resin is the most important forest produce. Two Forest Divisions of Rajouri and Nowshera planted 9.92 lakh plants and brought 2154 hectares of area under afforestation during last five years. Both the forest divisions have spent Rs.36.62 lakh during 1996-97 for plantation of 21.92 lakh plants over an area of 585 hectares. The social forestry funded projects of Sukhtao and Metka are concentrating activities in Manjakote and Kalakote respectively. The Social Forestry division, and the two territorial forest divisions over the last seven years (1990-1997) spent a sum of Rs.113.35 lakh on plantation of 28.95 lakh saplings of different species over an area of 3518 hectares.

FLORA AND FAUNA

(A) FLORA

The main species of chir cover roughly 60% of the forest area which the other species of this zone are khair phulai, amla, shisham anardana, burged, kau, jamun, amaltas, kamila and shrubs like snathe, rausont, garund and nerium indicum along nallas. Fir, quercus semioarpifolia (kharsu), oak and chikri etc. are found in the temperate Zone which covers approximately twenty five percent of the area. The Alpine Zone is restricted to Darhal and Budhal areas between 3,000 mtrs and 4,600 mtrs altitude. Rhodo fir dendoon, juniper, willow etc are some of the species found in this Zone.

(B) FAUNA

The animals found in the district are cheeta, snow leopard, black bear, brown bear, Jangli cat, jackal, Indian fox, grey musk-shrew, squirrel, porcupine, hare, Log deer, musk deer, monkey, langur, goral and wild bear.

The family of birds in the district consists of monal pheasant, koklar pheasant, red jungle fowl, Ram chakor, chakor, green partidge, grey quail, white backed vulture, common pea fowl, common paria kite, nutcrackey, bulbul, tailor bird. swallow, egret,wagtail, shikar (falcon), jungle crow, house crow, koel, black rock pigeon, Himalayan tree pie, Indian myna, dove, kingfisher etc.

DRINKING WATER SUPPLY

As many as 374 villages of the district have been provided drinking water facilities both under Minimum Needs Programme and Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme by the end of March, 1995 benefiting a population of 2,85,048.

An expenditure of Rs.55.13 crores has been incurred out of the district plan during the last five years on extending drinking water facilities.

POWER DEVELOPMENT

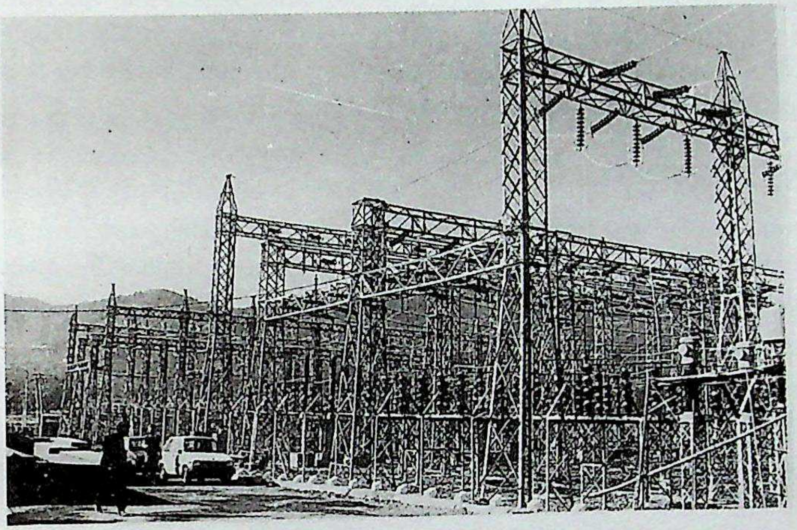
The Electrical and Rural Electrification Division is maintaining 974.45 kilometer H.T. and 2042 kilometer L.T. lines in the district Rajouri.

Upto the end of March 1997 a population of 1.19 lakh have been benefited and 351 village have been electrified.

During the last 7 years (1990 to 1997) a sum of Rs.585.58 lakh was spent under the Rural Electrification programme in the district. This also include electrification of seven villages and 19 hamlets covered during 1996-97 with an expenditure of Rs.172.86 lakh.

ROAD AND BRIDGES

Roads in the district are laid and maintained by two organizations Jammu and Kashmir Roads and Buildings Department and SAMPARK Project. The R & B Department is maintaining 467.82 kilometers road. It consists of 123.65 kilometers black topped, 45.50 kilometers metalled, 140.10 kilometers shingled and 158.57 kilometers as fair weather road. Roads and Buildings Department has spent Rs.172.86 lakh during 1996-97 on black topping of



Power Grid Station Rajouri

50 kilometers, metalling of 8.20 kilometers, shingling of 3.10 kilometers and construction of 6.10 kilometer fair weather roads. The R & B is also presently maintaining 16 rest houses/Dak-bungalows.

IRRIGATION

A sum of Rs.83.94 lakh has been incurred during 1996-97 for minor irrigation works. Additional irrigation potential of 21 hectares is created this year. The Irrigation Department is maintaining 114 khuls and lift schemes with irrigation potential of over 4530 hectares. During the last 7 years an amount of Rs.4.65 crore has been spent on construction and repair of minor irrigation channels.

FLOOD CONTROL

The department of Flood Control incurred an expenditure of Rs.98.26 lakh and executed 268 flood protection works in the district during last 7 years (1990-1997) protecting thereby a gross area of 267 hectares from the erosion.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Social Welfare Department engaged in providing benefits to the weaker sections of the society disbursed prematric scholarships to 9564 students and 4317 students belonging to schedule caste and other backward classes respectively during the last two years in the district.

EXAMINATION FEE

Examination fee was reimbursed in favour of 212 schedule caste and OBC students. 31 students of Safaikaramcharis were also financially assisted besides providing prosthatic aid to handicapped persons.

The Social Welfare Department is running five Balashrams Housing 240 inmates and ten Social Welfare centres with 25 trainees each.

The Department has spent an amount of Rs.48.85 lakh for the welfare of schedule caste/ OBC in the district during the last two years.

GUJJAR AND BAKERWAL SUB-PLAN

Under this sector an amount of over Rs. one crore has been spent during the last two years. 54422 students belonging to these communities have been provided prematric scholarhsips of Rs.72 lakh. The G&B hostel located at district HQ's has a strength of 125 students who are provided all kinds of facilities free of charge viz diet, uniforms, medicines and sports material etc.

During last two years an amount of RS.24.60 lakh has been incurred on management of the hostel. During 1996-97 an amount of Rs.63.85 lakh has been spent on providing scholarships to 28724 students, reimbursement of examination fee to 52 students besides management of G&B hostel, construction programme and medical aid etc.

I. C. D. S.

The centrally sponsored ICDS under which children below the age of six years and pregnant/nursing mothers are provided whole-some diet and required health care besides preschool education has claimed an expenditure of Rs.58 lakh during the last two years benefiting 29838 children and 3379 pregnant/ nursing mothers.

During the year 1996-97, 18844 children and 1727 pregnant nursing mothers have been covered under this programme pastulate programme in the district at an expenditure of Rs.31.12 lakh.

Seven Social Welfare Centres are presently imparting training in cutting and tailoring. There are four Bal Ashrams one each at Sunderbani, Manjakote, Budhal and Nowshera.

Gujjar and Bakerwal Hostel is located in Rajouri Town. The hostel has a Library-Cum-Reading room. It has strength of 125 students. Under the Gujjars and Bakerwals Sub-Plan, a sum of Rs.104.55 lakh has been expended till March,1995.

Rs.40.25 lakhs have been provided in the current year's plan for the implementation of Gujjars and Bakerwal Sub-Plan.

INDUSTRIES

Provisional registration of 102 SSI Units and formal registration of 61 SSI Units has been made by 1996-97. Coal and chips stone at Kalakote and lime stone at Siot are the main minerals found in the district. There is one Industrial Estate over an area of 52 kanals. 8 units are already functioning in it and two more are ready to take off. A sum of Rs.20.80 lakh has been spent in this sector during the year 1996-97 as against the expenditure of Rs.18.23 lakh during 1995-96.

HANDICRAFTS

A sum of Rs.35 lakh as against an expenditure of Rs.31.72 lakh during 1995-96 has been spent for handicrafts sector during 1996-97. During the year 185 trainees have been trained and two Co-operative societies established. Since 1977-78 the department has trained 6443 persons in Kashmiri, Dogri and Himachali crafts at its 23 training centres. Forty Nine handicrafts co-operative socieities stand registered.

HANDLOOMS

There are five Handloom Training Centres in the district. Till ending March 1997 stipend worth Rs.6.12 lakh has been paid to 555 trainees trained in weaving, cutting and tailoring since 1977-78. 10 Handloom Co-operative Societies with a total membership of 516 are functioning in the district. During the fiscal year 1996-97, RS.6.53 lakh have been spent on handloom promotion as against an expenditure of Rs.5.75 lakh registered in the year 1995-96.

SERICULTURE

The sericulture has emerged as an important industry in which about 8000 families of district are engaged. The silk worm rearers produced 2.73 lakh kgs. of cocoons and earned a revenue of Rs.1.95 crores during 1996-97.

The Sericulture Department has 20 Mulberry Nurseries in the district from which 2.73 lakh saplings were raised in 1996-97. The Mulberry Plantation covers a total area of over 8,000 kanals. During the last 7 years an amount of Rs.80.78 lakh was spent whereas on the physical front 14 lakh plants were planted. An amount of Rs.16.17 lakh has been spent on Sericulture promotion in the district during 1996-97 as against RS.14.20 lakh spent in 1995-96.

PISCI CULTURE

A trout hatchery has been set up at Phaini in Budhal block for rearing of trout. Trout fingerlings have already been stocked in the Ans nallah flowing through Kotranka.

The Fishery Department has constructed two fish farms at Muradpur seven kms from Rajouri town for culture of Indian major varieties (common-carb, rehu, rigal, gross carb, silver carb and cattle). The work on another two such farms at Muradpur is likely to be undertaken shortly. At present, the production of fish is already in progress in eight community/ private fish ponds at Behrote, Seri, Channi-parat, Panjah, Dharamsal, Rajpora-Kampla and Saranoo whileas construction works on 24 more such ponds is in progress in the district.

An amount of RS.4.12 lakh has been incurred in pisciculture sector in the district 1996-97 as against Rs.3.55 lakh spent during 1995-96

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

All the seven blocks of the district have been identified under Revamped Public Distribution System. There are 85000 ration card holders and the ration is supplied through 217 PDS outlets, 21 of which are government, 191 private and 5 co-operative. The Kerosene Oil is supplied through 163 Kerosene Oil outlets.

There are eight godowns, four Government and equal number private each at Rajouri, Sunderbani, Nowshera, Budhal, Darhal, Thanamandi, Kotranka, Kalakote to store about 9500 metric tonnes of ration at present.

CC-0 A

CO-OPERATIVES

Forty five Multi-purpose Co-operative Societies with membership of 32,000 are functioning in the district. These societies conducted business worth RS.50.88 lakh in 1996-97 through 35 consumer outlets whereas through another 88 consumer outlets they sold 41814 quintals of chemical fertilizers. The Co-operative banks disbursed RS.82.73 lakh as loans during the rabi and kharief seasons in 1996-97.

ASSEMBLY SEGMENTS AND VOTERS

Kalakote is the new assembly segment carved out on the recommendation of Delimitation Commission. Now the number of assembly constituencies in the district has risen from three to four. These are Rajouri,Darhal,Nowshera and Kalakote. According to the revised electoral rolls 304843 voters including 140970 female and 3,424 service voters have the right to franchise.

With the creation of one more constituency the numerical strength of polling booths has gone up by 50 from 274 in 1989 to the present 324 booths. The Rajouri Assembly segment now has 97 polling stations, Darhal 81, Nowshera 77 and Kalakote has 69 polling stations.

MEDIA

The District Information Centre is located at Rajouri. One Tehsil Information Centre is at Budhal. For transmission of Doordarshan programmes LPT/ VLPTs have been setup at Rajouri, Budhal, Kalakote and Thana Mandi. An HPT has been sanctioned by the Central Government for Nowshera. Two urdu bi-weeklies namely Chamkati Chingari and Rajouri Times and one English weekly are being published from the district. Besides, there are some correspondents representing Radio Kashmir and local regional newspapers.

P & T

The postal net work in the district consists of one Head Post Office, 112 Branch Post Offices, 11 Sub-Post Offices, 11 Telegraph Offices and three extra departmental Sub-Post Offices. In the telecommunication sector there are 24 telephone exchanges. District microwave system is also ready for commissioning in the district.

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BANKS

There are 49 bank branches of different banks operating in the district. As on 31.12.1996 the total bank deposits amounted to Rs.122.23 crores against which loans for Rs.12.97 crores stood advanced in different employment generating sectors.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE

One employment exchange is functioning at the district headquarters which registers and recommends names of unemployed youth for employment. It also deals directly with self employment schemes like Prime Minister Rozgar Yojna (PMRY) etc.

CULTURAL FORA

With a view to promote and preserve the rich literary and cultural heritage of the district, one sub-office of Academy of Art, Culture and Languages is located at the district headquarters.

There are other cultural clubs also, like Rakesh Kala Kendra, Rajouri, Anjuman-e-Khadam-e-Adab, Darhal Cultural club, Daljit Cultural club, Modern Cultural Club and Navrang cultural club which are playing a valuable role in the literary-cum-cultural field.

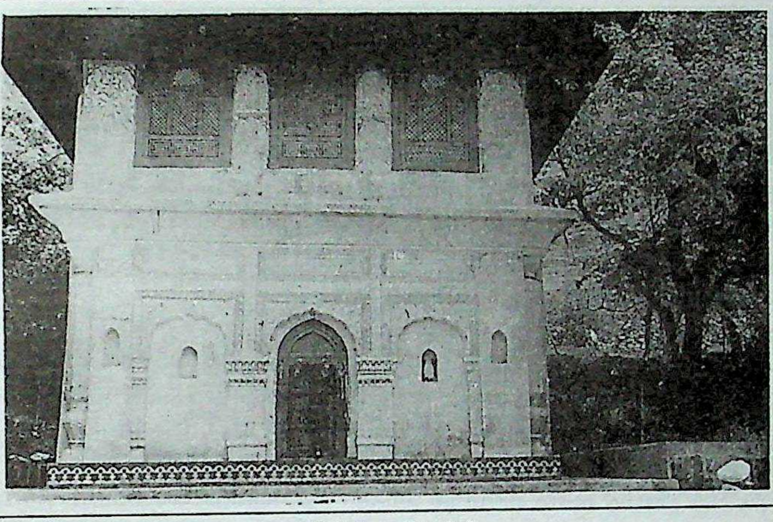
PLACES OF INTEREST

The district abounds in places which have immense pilgrim essence and tourist attraction. Some of these are as under:

SHAHDARA SHARIEF

It is the shrine of Baba Ghulam Shah in the lap of mountains which is well connected with 30 Kms. black topped road from Rajouri Town. Buses, Cars and Jeeps carrying pilgrims ply on this road regularly. The shrine commonly known as Shahdara Sharief is a popular tourist spot in Rajouri district. Reportedly 2000 pilgrims visit the shrine daily. There was a pir named Ghulam Shah who was born in Syed Family at village Saidian Rawalpindi (now in Pakistan). Ghulam Shah made Shadara his abode for the rest of his life. Over a period of time, this shrine has grown into symbol of communal harmony as Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs visit this place in large numbers, offer prayers and seek blessings of the Pir.

CC-0 Agamnigam Digi... ant



Shahdara Sharief

NAO GAZI ZIARAT

The Ziarat of Qutab Shah Wali at Danidhar near Rajouri town is also very popular which is 9 yard long grave of the saint and locally known as Nao Gazi Ziarat. People of different religions visit the place round the year to seek blessings of the saint whose family lineage is believed to be the same as that of Roshan Shah Wali Sahib whose shrine is situated in Jammu.

PANJPEER

A few kms. from Rajouri town is a shrine named Panj Peer. A large number of people including Army and para military forces visit this place round the year especially on Thursdays to seek blessings and pay obeisance. Being located at the road side the shrine is within the reach of every passerby. There are graves of five saintly brothers and a sister who had come here from Punjab, after whom the place has come to be known asd "Pauj Peer" meaning five saints.

BABA SAKHI SULTAN

Even the ever busy and over crowded Rajouri town is not without the privilege of such divine blessings. In the heart of town, there exists the shrine of Baba Sakhi Sultan and this place is thronged by the people of varied faiths of spiritual strength.

MANGLA GODDESS

At this place there is one cave existing on the pattern of Mata Vaishno Devi and bears much religious importance. On every Monday people from different parts of the district and defence personnel visit the shrine to worship. In view of the existing inflow of the devotees a sarai has been constructed by the local people with the assistance of the army personnel to accommodate about 50 yatries. The majestic and ancient shrine of Goddess Mangla is a place of pilgrim attraction which enjoys high order of esteem among vast sections of the people and is situated on a hillock at Bhawani, Nowshera and is 70 kms from Rajouri. Besides being known for its spiritual values, it commands panoramic view of the natural beauty around, which is an added attraction from the tourism point of view. The shrine is believed to be as old as that of Mahabharta and the miracles experienced there have made the shrine more popular among the people especially the army personnel. Thousands of people participate in Bhandara at the temple of the eve of Dussehra.

CHINGUS

The famous Chingus Sarai designed with Mughal architect style located about 2,000 feet above sea level and on the right bank of nala and just on the Jammu-Poonch highway is a spot of historical background. It is a spacious inn with a mosque inside. The entrails of the Mughal Emperor Jahangir were buried inside the sarai when he passed away while returning from Kashmir. In order to avert possible war of succession among the sons of the King, fact of his death was kept a closely guarded secret from the people by his Queen Noor Jahan. To avoid decomposition of the body, his entrails were buried there, and the name of the village Khanpur got converted into Chingus meaning entrails in Persian and is popularly known even today.

There is also a place of worship located under a tree where people perform their religious rites throughtout the year. Drinking water is procured from a bowly constructed by the Mughals near the Sarai. The legendary Tomb has assumed the status of shrine where the people of different faiths visit for paying obeisance and offering prayers.

Mr. R.C.Kak in his antiquities of Bhimber and Rajouri says. "This hallowed spot has since assumed status of a shrine for Hindus and Muslims alike. Prayers at the Tomb are considered very effective, the sick come here for recovery of health, the poor for riches, the weary for divine comfort. And

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in the local belief the prayers of all are speedily fulfilled".

DEHRA KI GALI

Bernier the first European to enter J&K, while visiting this place in 1665 says, "in truth the Kingdom surpasses in beauty all that my warm imagination had anticipated". Dehra Ki Gali which is situated at an altitude of 7,190 ft. in the Pir Panjal Range provides a bridge between Rajouri and Poonch districts overlooking the beautiful narrow Valleys of Rajouri and Poonch. This place is blessed with natural beauty, thick forests, fresh cool breeze and enchanting view of surrounding hills. Heavy snow fall during winter makes this place all the more charming. The main attraction of Dehra Ki Gali is its changing weather. One of the best health resorts of J&K-Dehra Ki Gali is situated about 35 kms. from Rajouri, 45 kms. from Poonch and hardly 17 kms from Shrine Shadara Sharief. At present it is mere meadow for shepherds for summer grazing.

THANNA MANDI

This is an important historical place from the time of the Mughals who used to stay here during journey from Delhi to Kashmir and vice versa. An old Mughal sarai still exists which speaks of its glorious past. The climate of this place is very charming and infact health resort. It is also famous for its artistic wooden products. The famous Shrine of Shahdara Sharief is 6 kms from this place.

LAL BOWLIE

About 10 kms from Rajouri on the Rajouri-Thanna Mandi road this spring of fresh water abounds with fish. It is believed that spring is linked underground with the lake Nandan Sar at the top of Pir Panjal. It is a beautiful scenic spot as Cheshma Shahi of Kashmir.

BALIDAN BHAWAN

The Bhawan is a memoir of great sacrifices made by the people of Rajouri during 1947-48 period. On the night of Diwali in October- November 1947, the Pakistani marauders forcibly captured the town when Indian army was operating in other Parts of the district. The marauders mercilessly put to death thousands of men and women, old and young, infants and children and plundered the town in lust of wealth and booty. The people who escaped from the marauders had taken shelter in the tehsil headquarters, a Toshkhana of ancient rulers, where they faced the intruders bravely till they ran out of their ammunition and when felt helpless to face the on-slaught of marauders, they preferred to kill themselves rather to fall prey to the ill designs of the intruders. Consequently thousands of men and women committed suicide and those managed to escape were butchered in the out skirts of the town, where now we have the airfield. Those were the days of horror which when recalled send shock waves in the minds of people.

When Indian army liberated the town on 13th April, 1948, the day of Baisakhi festival, people heaved a sigh of relief and collected the remains of those souls who had lost their valuable lives, for last religious rites.

The Bhawan since then has been dedicated to the sacrifices of those heroes and was given the name of Balidan Bhawan where people from all walks of life assemble every year on Diwali and Baisakhi festivals to pay homage to the freedom fighters. They take pledge on these days to work for the unity, integrity and solidarity of the nation.

WAR MEMORIAL

It has been raised at Gujjar Mandi Chowk in Rajouri township, Rajouri was liberated by the Indian army on 13th April 1948. Major General Kulwant Singh launched an attack against Pakistani forces who had converted the site of present airfield into a slaughter ground.

HALL OF FAME

On the top of the mound, the great memorial Hall of Fame has been constructed in commemoration of the heroic deeds of those who had laid down their lives for the sake of their motherland in the sectors of Rajouri and Poonch. The foundation stone of Hall of Fame was laid in 1982 by Lt. Gen. S.P.Malhotra, PVSM, the then G.O.C-in-C-Northern Command. About 2 years later, on October 29, 1984 this monument was declared open by the then Lt. Gen. Chhiber, P.V.S.M., A.V.S.M., G.O.C.-in-C-Northern Command.

On the 2nd layer of lawn upward another memorial has been constructed in the memory of five army officers including Maj. Gen. Sudershan Singh and Brig. B.P. Singh who died on 14th of July,1990 in a helicopter crash at Chor Gali in Poonch Sector.

The Hall of Fame, a living monument of bravery and sacrifice, has been dedicated to brave armymen, of all ranks and civilians who have rendered

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valuable services and sacrificed their lives for the liberation of Rajouri and Poonch.

The Hall of Fame consists of four rooms. At the entry point is the general hall which has been decorated with flags and shields of units which took part in the last three wars and also the portraits of the Generals who were entrusted the defence of this divisional sector from time to time. A sage of heroism, bravery and courage can be recalled while looking at these portraits.

DHANIDHAR FORT

It is a historical monument located on a hill in the vicinity of Rajouri town. Some people say that Fort was constructed nearly 400 years back by a Mughal King probably during the reign of Emperor Jahangir. This fort may be the construction of Dogra rulers. It is just 2 kms away from Rajouri presenting panoramic and impressive view of the entire area with minor facilities it can be developed as an excellent tourist spot. Establishement of small museum depicting local life style and crafts of the area will add to its glory.

USMAN MEMORIAL

Usman Memorial has been constructed at Jhangar in the memory of Brig. Usman who was mainly responsible for freeing the captured area around Jhangar. After having captured this strategic area, Brig. Usman convened a conference of army officers to decide future course of action. Meanwhile, he fell to heavy shelling of the enemy on 3rd July, 1948. The body of Brig. Usman was taken to Delhi. He was burried with full state honours. The then Governor General and Prime Minister of India attended the last rites of Brigadier Usman.

The great memorial is maintained by the Infantry Unit located at Jhangar. The heroic deeds of army men as well as civilians who died while fighting in this area are commemorated every year on 3rd of July as "Jhangar Day". Alongwith this great memorial, another memorial has been constructed in the memory of those of 268 Infantry 'Brigade, who gave their lives for glory and honour of their mother land.

MONUMENTS

Rajouri district is widely known for its monumental heritage and has several places worth visiting. Archaeological remains of district mainly comprise temples, sarais, royal palaces, forts, mosques, gardens, hamams baoiles etc. of different periods ranging from the Kushan to late Medievial period. The monuments include Rajouri temple, Sarai, Mosque, Fort in Rajouri Town, Sarai and Mosque in Muradapur Village, Sarai and Baoli and Chingus, Kushan site in Kheore village on Rajouri-Darhal Link road, Thannamandi Mughal Sarai, Palace, Mosque and Hamam in Nowshera, Nandpur Sarai, Mangla Devi, Khamba, Darhal Forts rock and sculptures at Hathinala near Jhangar, ancient temples and sculptures at Panjanara in Kalakote tehsil, Gandhe and Channi Prath in Sunderbani tehsil.

LAKES

Pir Panjal falling under the jurisdiction of Rajouri-Poonch district is a repository of beautiful lakes situated at an altitude between 13,000 feet to 14,500 feet. In the local parlance lakes called "Sar" and meadow is called "Marg". This stretch of Pir Panjal is full of lakes and meadows and a place to be well enjoyed by the tourists. These ancient lakes find mention in ancient historical works like Neelmata Purana, Rajtarangni and Mahatamyas. There are in all more than 27 lakes between Simar-Sar to Nandan Sar in an area of 30x30 sq. kms. Of these, seven lakes are big in size and rest are small. Next to Kaunsar Nag, Bhag Sar in this area is the biggest lake. Most of the big lakes are situated at the boundary line between Jammu division and the Kashmir Valley and drain into the Valley. THe important lakes are Sukh Sar, Akal Darshni, Nandan Sar, Sar, Katori Sar, Raviwalli Marg group of lakes, Chamar Sar, Bhag Sar, Diya Sar, Padyaran Sar I and II, Katori Sar in Bela Marg and Smat Sar. All the above lakes are situated in the high lands of Pir Panjal Range and freeze during winter and become available for rafting or boating only during summer season from June to October.

SAMOTSAR

An oval shaped blue water lake is situated at an altitude of 3,550 meters on the northern end of Badjari Marg. This one-km. long lake is accessible in four hours from Budhal to enjoy the beauty of nature scattered in this part of Pir Panjal range. One should return via Sarota Marg-Behramgala-Noori Chamb waterfall. This return journey can be completed in four to five days during which a trekker can cover a garland of seven lakes and beautiful margs amidst snow clad mountains. The lakes on way back are Neel Sar, Katoria Sar, Suk Sar, Akal Darshani, Nundan Sar, Chandan Sar and Gum Sar.

CHANDAN SAR

Chandan Sar, a bean shaped lake and full of icebergs till end of July, is situated at an altitude of 3,800 meters. Two Kms. in circumference, it is a source of Chamar Nala which joins Bafliaz Nala near Behram Gala. It is a day's trekking from Ravi Walli Marg.

DIYA SAR

Diya Sar is a typical like an Indian earthen lamp and hence named as "Diya Sar". Situated at a height of 3,600 meters, the lake is one km. in length.

SUKH SAR

An oval shaped lake at an altitude of 3,000 meters, Sukh Sar is a small size lake if one approaches a group of lakes in the area from the northern end.

AKAL DARSHNI

Next to Sukh Sar at a distance of one Km. is Akal Darshani, triangular in shape. Its water looks black as compared to other blue water lakes and is worshipped as sacred by all Bakerwals who pass through this route. It is 200 meters wide and 400 meter long and situated at a height of 3,300 meters above sea level.

NANDAN SAR

Nandan Sar is an oval shaped kilometer long lake. It is one of the biggest and beautiful lakes located at such a high altitude of 3,500 meters. Its water is deep blue in colour. One has to ascend the slope from Akal Darshni and then descend towards valley. Its water flows through Jadi Marg Nala into the valley.

KATORI SAR

From Chandan Sar, route again enters Rajouri district through Barhal pass (3,650 meters) in westernly direction. There is located irregular shaped lake with blue waters known as Katori lake or Sar at an elevation of about 3,550 meters.

RAVI WALLI MARG GROUP OF LAKES

From Katori Sar as one descends down due west, waters of four lakes provided a panoramic view of Ravi Walli Marg. The four lakes located in this marg are Kokar Sar, Neel SAr, Bhag Sar, and Ding Sar. Altitude of this place is about 3,300 meters and is one of the best camping sites at this altitude.

BHAG SAR

Bhag Sar is the highest lake situated in this series of lakes in Rajouri/Budhal mountains at an elevation of about 3,700 meters. It is an oval shaped lake and is inaccessible for a common man. It is enclosed from all the four sides and is always full of icebergs. To approach this lake one has to skirt around the Chamar Sar from left side and then ascend the glacier upto 4,000 meters from where the lake is visible.

PADYARAN SAR (I AND II)

To reach Padyaran Sars, one has to ascend one km. stee cliff of Diya Sar Gali at an elevation of 3,800 meters. From the Gali one enters famous Rupari Corridor towards hilly terrain of Ans catchment. Just below Diya Sar Gali, at an elevation of 3,400 meters, twin lakes of Padyaran Sar can be seen. Both are bean shaped lakes. Padyaran I is slightly bigger than Padyaran II. Most of the time, these lakes remain under snow. Nomadic Bakerwals of Taryath, Tatapani, Kahwas, Metka, Mogla, Kandi, Bakori and Budhal cross Rupari pass to enter Kashmir Valley.

KATORI SAR IN BELA MARG

This is a saucer shaped lake located on western end of Bela Marg, at an altitude of 3,300 meters. It is one of the smallest lakes formed due to pooling of water from melting snow and dries out by the end of September.

GUM SAR

This is another small lake at the foot of Dhakyar at an elevation of 3,600 meters. Dhakyar peak is the highest peak in this range. It is pyramidical mountain with height of about 4,660 meters.

TREKKING ROUTES

Rajouri, situated at the foot-hills of snowclad Pir Panjal range, has its own attraction. There are several climbed and virgin peaks ranging between 15,290 ft. and 16,000 ft. like Dhakyar, Kotoria, Budhal Pir, Brahma, Tatakuti, Sunset, Kagha Alana and Handoo peak near Chamchi Sar lake calling for mountaineer's attention. Similarly several lakes like Simar Sar, Kotoria Sar, Khayar Sar, Bhag Sar, Neel Sar, Nandan Sar, and many others at an altitude of 13,000 to 14,500 ft are bewitching. There exist more than twelve passes on this range between Rajouri-Poonch and Kashmir Valley. These are Galli Medhan Pass, Jamian Pass, Noorpur Galli, Chor Galli, Choti Galli, Pir Galli, Handoo Pass, Ruperi Pass, Budhal Pir Pass and Pir Pantsal near Konsarnag lake. Bakerwals, Gujjar and Hindu Gaddis with their livestock of Sheep and Buffaloes move to either side through these passes.

Some of the trekking routes, bases and duration are as under:

BASE RAJOURI

Rajouri-Kandi, Kesri Hill-Kenaki Water Fall- Dada Nar-Talyani-Talyani Galli-Marguri-Bela-Simar Sar Lake-Bela Top- Dhakyar Peak- Rupri Galli pass (Six days).

Rajouri-Thanamandi-DKG-Girjan-Panjtari-Khuha Gum Sar-Nandan Pass-Nandan Sar lake and six other lakes - Jaddi - Aliabad - Hirpur-Srinagar.(Eight days).

Rajouri - Budhal - Sar Sot - Reta Walli - Harshu - Goray wan Parhi Walli Marg - Konsarnag lake - Mahinag - Kungwattan - Aharbal (Water fall) - Srinagar (Ten days)

(Most difficult pass of Pir Panjal Range)

Rajouri-DKG - Girjan - Pantari - Khuya - Sarote a- Shaker Marg- Roopri Pass Bela- Khodra - Budhal (Fifteen days)

BASE THANAMANDI

Thanamandi - Noori Chamb - Chandi Marh - Poshina - Pir Pass - Aliabad - Mirpur - Suphian - Srinagar (Six days)

Thanamandi- Chandi Marh - Kabar Pathran - Bagla - Ganga Choti-Choti Marg - Choti Galli Pass - Kundhlan - Yous Marg - Srinagar (Eight days).

BASE DARHAL

Darhal- Kanda - Shaker Marg - Cha Sari - Dood Walli - Chamber - Chamchi Sar Lake - handoo Pass - Bhagh Sar- Sarota Valley of flower - Neel Sar - Panjtari - Girjan - Noori Chamb - Behram Galla - and back to Rajouri (Ten days)

BASE BUDHAL

Budhal - Saveri Marg - Khodra - Simar Sar Lake - Bella- Kotoria Sar Lake- Dhakyar Peak (15,2900 ft.) (Six days).

With a view to popularising tourism in Rajouri-Poonch and to know unknown and un-scalled lands, Everest Mountaineering club Rajouri is actively involved in channellizing energy of the youth in adventure sports like trekking, mountaineering, beating , water sports etc.

GALANTRY AWARD WINNERS

Hindus, Muslims, Rajputs, Gujjars, Bakerwals of Rajouri district are by nature very robust, stout and brave people. They have exhibited these qualities in sufficient measure by joining the Armed Forces of the country and winning various gallantry awards in different actions in various theatres of War.

Eight who were awarded Vir Chakra are Hon. Lt. Sanatan Singh of Budhal tehsil, Havaldar Swarn Singh, Havaldar Deputy Lal, Havaldar Bhagat Ram and Sub. Parveen Singh all of Sunderbani tehsil, N/K Mohd. Iqbal Malik of Darhal, Sub. Maj. Parma Nand of Kalakote tehsil and N/Sub. Raj of Nowshera tehsil. Number of other were also awarded Sena medals and Mention in Despatches for their heroic deeds.

SMT. MALI BEE (PADAMA SHRI)

During 1971 War with Pakistan, Smt. Mali Bee of Rajouri district was one of the first individuals in the Rajouri sector to give correct and authentic information of the Pakistani infiltrators. Her undaunted courage and loyalty to the nation at a crucial time encouraged others also to rise to the occasion and soon the army started getting information about the infiltrators in the district. As a result of this, a large number of infiltrators along with their arms and ammunition were captured.

For this act of valour, she was awarded "Padam Shri". This was the firt time that this honour was bestowed upon a civilian in the 1971 operations.

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COMPERATIVE STATEMENT OF YEAR WISE EXPENDITURE (IN LAKH)

Sector	Expdt. 92-93	Expdt. 93-94	Expdt. 94-95	Expdt. 95-96	Outlay 96-97	Expdt. 96-97	Expdt. 92-97
Agriculture & Allied Service	310.90	278.70	368.34	404.17	434.80	447.64	1809.83
Rural Dev.	91.22	94.19	153.02	258.07	309.93	255.46	851.96
Industries	54.09	53.03	56.44	70.99	79.48	80.21	314.76
Communication.	117.01	131.37	167.49	209.08	234.78	283.78	908.73.
Energy	10.50	72.60	150.39	276.20	137.00	172.86	632.55
Social & Gen.Services	763.90	843.59	931.67	1116.31	1448.67	1412.65	5068.12
Others	2.00	1.40	2.98	3.86	3.23	5.82	16.06
Total:-	**1349.62**	**1474.96**	**1830.33**	**2288.68**	**2647.89**	**2658. 42**	**9602.01**

WHO'S WHO

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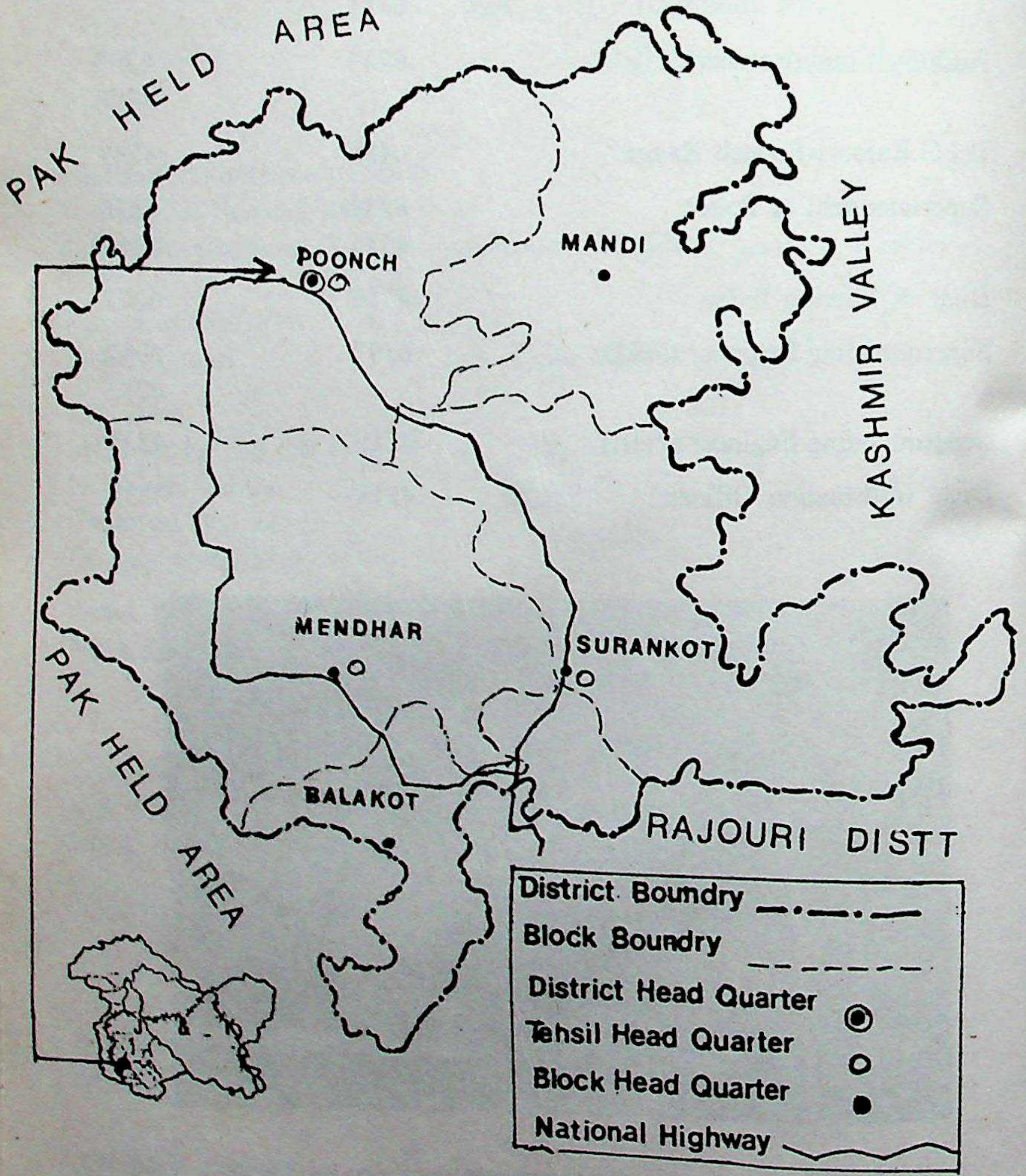
Ashok Sharma MLA, Kalakote,	Jammu 578597	578597
R.S. Sharma MLA, Nowshera,	548121 431124 Jammu 578930 Nowshera 33337 33248	547293 33254
Malik Mohd Sadiq MLC,		Jammu 577271
Ch. Moh. Hussain MLA, Darhal,		Rajouri 6327

Dy.Commissioner		4568	4569
		6244	6242
	Fax	6481	
Addl.Dy.Commissioner		6244	4205
			4296
D.I.G.Rajouri-Poonch Range		6480	6249
Superintendent of Police		6240	6236
		4525	6359
Distt. & Session Judge		4316	6272
Superintending Engineer (R&B)		6397	6397
			4285
Superintending Engineer (PHE)		4219	4335
Distt. Information Officer		4318	4353

SHADRA SHARIEF (RAJOURI)

POONCH DISTRICT


PAK HELD AREA
POONCH
MANDI
KASHMIR VALLEY
MENDHAR
SURANKOT
BALAKOT
PAK HELD AREA
RAJOURI DISTT
District Boundry
Block Boundry
District Head Quarter
Tehsil Head Quarter
Block Head Quarter
National Highway

POONCH AT A GLANCE

Area	1,674 sq. kms.
Forest area	83,914 acres.
Population (1981 census)	2.24 lakh
Projected population	3.08 lakh (Male 1.59 lakh Female 1.49 lakh
Literacy rate	34.79%
Tehsils	3
CDNES Blocks	5
Villages	178
villages (inhabited)	168
Panchayats	115
Educational Institutions.	801
Health Institutions	158
Villages electrified.	168
Mohras electrified	204
Villages with portable water	168
Principal Crops	Maize,Paddy and Wheat
Cropped area	46,927 Hect.
Orchards	2,497 Hect.
Land holdings	37,000
Cattle population	3.88 Lakh
Sheep Goat population	3.40 Lakh
Bank branches	24
Post offices	62
Annual Plan (1997-98)	Rs.26.51 Crores
Lok Sabha Constituency	Part of Jammu-Rajouri-Poonch.
Polling Booths	281
Assembly Segments	3

Electorate (1998)	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Surankot	36543	34979	71522
Mendhar	36775	37359	74134
Poonch Haveli	41816	37915	79737
Total	**45134**	**40253**	**225387**

Poonch district is the smallest of the 14 districts of J&K State. It falls between 33 degree-25 ‘ to 34 degree-01’ north latitude and 73 degree-58' to 74 degree-35' east longitude. Poonch is flanked by the districts of Baramulla and Pulwama of Kashmir Valley in the north-east, illegally occupied areas of the State by Pakistan in the north- west and by the Rajouri district in the south.

Despite several geographical and topographical constraints and handicaps like its location, proximity to line of actual control, remoteness from commercial markets of Jammu and Srinagar, the district is taking rapid strides on the socio-economic development. Spread over an area of 1,674 sq. kms, Poonch district is totally hilly and mountainous barring few-low lying vales. It has varied climate depending upon altitude of the place.

The district comprises three tehsils of Haveli, Mendhar and Surankot and five community blocks of Poonch, Mandi, Surankote, Mendhar and Balakote. It has 178 villages of which 168 are inhabited,51 panchayats and a town.

A small district with comparatively less population, Poonch district has a rich cultural heritage and distinct historical background connected with the great Mughals. The caravans of Mughal emperors for Kashmir passed through Poonch district in 17th century and that route is known as Mughal road.

As per 1981 census the district had population of 2.24 lakh, comprising 1.19 lakh males and 1.05 lakh females, constituting only four percent of the total population of the State. Though no census had taken place in the State in 1991 however, the projected population of the district in 1991 was estimated at 3.08 lakh. About 94 percent of the population of the district lives in rural areas while only six percent resides in towns. The literacy rate of the district is 34.79 per cent.

The district has an area of 1.14 lakh hectares of which 23 percent is cultivable. There are 37,000 land holdings covering an area of 54,000 hectares as per 1980-81 agricultural census. About 3,000 hectares are irrigated. Principal crops of the district are maize, paddy and wheat. Maize is the staple food of the people.

Poonch district offers a representative character of the State in climate, culture and secular outlook. The people speak Gojri and Punchi which according to Grieson, is a sister language of Punjabi dialect Lendi. Both the languages have rich folk-lores Potari and folk songs.

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HISTORY

Poonch has witnessed many a historical era. The natives believe that Lord Rama and the Pandavas had visited this area. According to a popular legend, Poonch got its name from Maharishi Pulasta, grand father of Ravana. It is said that in ancient times Pulasta worshipped here for a long time. After him the area came to be known as Pulast Nagar which, with the passage of time, got distorted from Pulast to Printus, Printus to Proons and then ultimately to the present name of Poonch. In Kashmiri language Poonch is still known as Proons.

Pruntsa or Punch was probably the first State to be founded in the Abhisara tract and may have existed much earlier than the visit of Hiuen-Tsang. Its capital in ancient days was Lohara, a town to the south-east of Punch. In Hiuen-Tsang's time who visited Punch on his way from Kashmir to Rajouri, the State existed over an area of 333 miles in circuit and was known as part of Kashmir. The earliest name was Lohara but in Hiuen-Tsang's time the State had come to be known by the name Parnotsa. In A.D. 830, there seems to have occurred a political revolution in Parnotsa when Lohara State was founded by Nara, a local petty chief of Khasa tribe.

Around 326 BC when Alexander invaded lower Jhelum belt to fight with Porus, this region was known as Dravabhisar. Around 850 A.D. Poonch became a sovereign State ruled by Raja Nar, who was basically a horse trader.

According to Rajatarangni, Raja Trilochan Pal of Poonch gave a tough fight to Mahmood Ghaznavi who invaded this area in 1020 A.D. This area remained under Pahari Hindu Rajas upto 1420 A.D. The important Rajas were Trilochan Pal, Raja Vigra Raj and Lethan etc. In 1596, Mughal King Jahangir made Siraj-ud-Din ruler of Poonch. Siraj-ud-Din and his descendents Raja Shahbaz Khan, Raja Abdul Razak, Raja Rustam Khan and Raja Khan Bhadur Khan ruled Poonch upto 1792 A.D. According to Tarikh-i-Duggar Desh by Narsingh Dass Nargis, Wazir Rooh-Allah of Sangoo Gujjar community, his son Raja Amir Khan and his grandson Raja Mirbaz Khan ruled Poonch. According to him, Rooh-Allah died in 1819 A.D. and after four years his son Amir Khan also expired. After that his grandson Mirbaz Khan became the king of Poonch. During this period Maharaja Gulab Singh had captured this area as per instructions of Maharaja Ranjeet Singh and it remained under the control of Khalsa Darbar of Lahore till 1850, when Raja Moti Singh, son of Raja Dhayan Singh, who was Prime Minister of Khalsa Darbar, set up its separate principality as Poonch State. The Dogra dynasty ruled Poonch State from 1850 to 1947 till the traumatic events of partition of the country. Half of the tehsil of Haveli and the whole of Bagh and Sudhnutti tehsils of Poonch State were occupied illegally by Pakistan.

The era from 1850 to 1947 is considered as the golden period in the history of Poonch. The principality of Poonch got the status of State from British Raj in 1901 A.D. during the reign of Raja Baldev Singh. During the successive rule of Raja Moti Singh, Baldev Singh, Sukhdev Singh, Jagat Dev Singh and Raja Shiv Rattandev Singh Poonch witnessed all round development. The historic Poonch fort was renovated and redesigned. Mandi Hall and Court buildings were constructed on the line of Mubarak Mandi of Jammu. Fountain Garden was established in Poonch on the pattern of Shalimar Garden of Kashmir. Baghi Khanna, Bagh Deodi, the gate of city and number of other buildings were also constructed. Palaces are known as Baldev Mahal, Moti Mahal, and Sheesh Mahal which reflect the aesthetic taste of the rulers. A number of temples, mosques and gurdwaras had also been constructed during those years.

DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

The border district of Poonch enfolded in an area of 1,674 sq. kms., is a

District Development Board Meeting

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baby district in comparison to other districts of the State. Like a healthy growing child, the district has made a tremendous socio-economic progress since the introduction of single line administration and decentralisation of planning two decades back

The progress is consummerate with the funds allocated year after year. It has been harmonious as well as conspicuous. The allocations have gone up manifold from Rs.4.32 crore (1984-85) to whopping about Rs.26.51 crore (1997-98).

During 1996-97, a sum of about Rs.25.00 crores which came to 99 per cent of the plan outlay, was spent on the execution of various development works and public welfare schemes.

District Plan 1997-98

(Rs in lakhs)

S.No.	Sector	Outlay	Expenditure (Provisional)
1.	Agriculture & Allied Services	440.98	418.16
2.	Rural Development	303.24	311.12
3.	Industries	72.59	74.19
4.	Communication	404.27	319.87
5.	Energy	158.00	161.05
6.	Social & Gen.Services	1266.20	1201.84
7.	Others	5.90	6.50
	Total:	**2651.18**	**2492.73**

The district for the financial year 1997-98 got an outlay of Rs.2651.18 lakh comprising Rs.1239.69 lakh as revenue and Rs. 1411.49 lakh as capital component. In addition to Rs.2651.18 lakh, the district gets Central share of Rs.712.34 lakh for the implementation of centrally sponsored schemes such as EAS, JRY and IRDP. Thus the district with a projected population of 3.08 lakh in 1991 (it was 2.24 lakh as per 1981 census) got total funds to the tune of Rs.3363.52 lakh, a very substantial sum for investment to register development in different fields.

A brief mention of targets and allocations in different sectors is as under:-

AGRICULTURE

In 1996-97, an area of 38,720 hectares was covered under high yielding variety seeds of different crops like maize which makes a -staple diet of the people, Wheat, Paddy,oil seeds etc. In order to achieve optimum productivity, 1889 quintal quality seeds of different crops and 1838 metric tonnes of chemical fertilizers were distributed among the farmers. Nearly 500 progressive farmers of the district were imparted training in the modern farm technology.

The department spent Rs.21.86 lakh on Agriculture and its allied activities including the programme of Trainings and Visits in 1996-97.

A sum of Rs.26.42 lakh had been earmarked for 1997-98 in Agriculture sector. An area of 43,200 hectares was targetted to be brought under the ambit of cultivation of high yielding variety crops. 3340 quintals of HYV seeds and 2018 metric tonnes of fertilizers will be distributed among the farmers for ensuring good yield.

HORTICULTURE

An allocation of Rs.43.23 lakh had been made for horticulture development in the 1997-98 district Plan. An area of 250 hectares will be covered under Compact Orchards Programme.

During 1996-97, RS.37.17 lakhs were spent in horticulture sector. On the physical side, 360 hectares area was brought under orchards and 50,000 saplings of different varieties of fruits produced from six local departmental nurseries were distributed among the fruit growers. On the other hand, 4464 metric tonnes of fruit was produced in the district.

COOPERATIVES

The department of Cooperatives during 1997-98 advanced short-term loans to the tune of Rs.40 lakhs and medium-term loans worth Rs.30 lakhs to the farmers. An amount of Rs.16.06 lakh has been earmarked. The cooperatives department claimed an expenditure of Rs.10.19 lakh in 1996-97. Short-term loans and medium-term loans amounting to RS.39.48 lakhs and Rs.23.75 lakhs were disbursed among the farmers respectively.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

An expenditure of Rs.46.74 lakhs was incurred in 1996-97. Treatment against contagious and non-contagious diseases was provided to 0.88 lakh cattle heads.

A sum of Rs.56.15 lakh had been allocated for 1997-98. The department has a target of dosing 0.60 lakh cattle besides covering 3700 cattle under artificial insemination.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY

Under this sector, in 1996-97 4.05 lakh kgs. of wool and 11.00 lakh kgs. of mutton was produced. In addition, 405 exotic rams were distributed among the sheep breeders for the qualitative improvement of their flocks.

An allocation of Rs.29.51 lakh had been earmarked for 1997-98. As regards targets, 4.50 lakh kgs of wool is to be produced besides the production of 11.60 lakh kgs of mutton. 415 stud ram will be given to the sheep breeders for the propagation of quality breed of their sheep.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(A) INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (IRDP)

As many as 487 income generating units were set up in 1996-97 in the district under IRDP. 45 women groups were formed under the Programme of Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) and 187 unemployed rural youth were provided training in different trades under Training of Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM). An amount of Rs.48.63 lakh was expended on all these activities during 1996-97.

A sum of Rs.50.23 lakh had been kept under IRDP in 1997-98 plan which envisages establishment of 1345 income generating units, training of 367 unemployed youth under TRYSEM and formation of 58 women groups under DWCRA Programme.

(B) JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJANA (JRY)

For 1997-98 plan an allocation of Rs.30.19 lakh had been made under JRY. About 600 works under JRY and 250 works under Million Wells Scheme will be executed and 450 houses under Indira Awas Yojana will be constructed.

During 1996-97 an amount of Rs.126.21 lakh was spent on the execution of 394 works under JRY, 272 works under Million Wells Schemes and on the construction of 364 houses under Indira Awas Yojana. As a result of all these works 2.70 lakh mandays were generated in the district.

(C) EMPLOYMENT ASSURANCE SCHEME (EAS)

Under EAS 1060 works were executed in 1997-98 resulting in the generation of 11.10 lakhs mandays. For this purpose an allocation of Rs.109.65 lakhs had been earmarked.

Last year 442 works resulting in the generation of 4.25 lakh mandays under EAS were completed at an expenditure of Rs.196.85 lakh.

EDUCATION

An expenditure of Rs.539.54 lakh was incurred on education in 1996-97. With reference to the physical achievements, 15 new primary schools were opened, 6th class was added in six schools, 7th and 8th classes in four schools each besides the upgradation of two middle schools to high schools and one high school to higher secondary school. In the meantime 26,453 students were provided free uniforms and 23,174 scheduled tribe students were provided scholarships. The schools in the district registered enrolement of 64,813 students

For 1997-98, an amount of Rs.669.89 lakh had been allocated in education sector. Twenty-one new primary schools were proposed to be opened during 1997-98, 6th class added in nine schools and 8th class in 6 schools. Three schools in the district be upgraded to high schools and two high schools were proposed to be upgraded to higher secondary schools.

HEALTH

Two allopathic dispensaries were upgraded to Primary Health Centres during 1996-97. An amount of RS.127.43 lakh was incurred in health sector. During 1997-98 a sum of Rs.200.38 lakh had been earmarked under the health sector. This year two allopathic dispensaries were proposed to be upgraded to PHCs. Eight new medical sub-centres will also be opened in the district.

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING

In all 26 hamlets (nine under MNP and 17 under ARWSP) with a population of 6645 were provided potable drinking water in 1996-97 at an expenditure of Rs.238.98 lakh.

An allocation of Rs.258.33 lakh has been made for 1997-98 under PHE. Drinking water will be provided to 8 hamlets under minimum needs programme and 13 water supply schemes out of eighteen will be completed.

POWER

21 hamlets will be electrified besides the completion of three receiving grid stations at Jaranwali Gali, Julas and Bimbergali. The power sector got an outlay of Rs.158.00 lakh for 1997-98.

In 1996-97 an expenditure of RS.152.00 lakh was incurred in power sector. Twenty seven hamlets inhabited by 475 families were electrified.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

A sum of Rs.300.74 lakh was incurred in the R&B sector during 1996-97.

During the period, 2.40 kms of fair weather road length was constructed, 8.60 kms. road length black topped, 9.20 kms. metalled and 3.70 kms road length was shingled in the district. First ten kms of Mandi-Phagla road, 4 kms of Sangiote road and first 13 kms of Bufliaz-Phagla road were opened for vehicular traffic. First seven kms of Sain Baba Miran road were completed in all respects. Thus the population of 23,000 comprising eight cut-off villages were benefitted by this road communication facility.

Eleven suspension bridges of vital communication importance in the district were also either repaired or reconstructed.

For 19997-98 an amount of Rs.402.27 lakh, provided in the district plan, was to be spent under the R&B sector. The physical targets set in the plan include construction of 7.35 kms of fair weather roads, black topping of 3.50 kms, shingling of 6 kms and metalling 4 kms road length. Repairs or construction of 12 suspension bridges is also envisaged in the plan.

IRRIGATION

In Irrigation sector, Rs.117.63 lakh were spent in 1996-97. An additional irrigation potential was created over eighty hectares of area.

An amount of Rs.115.00 lakh had been earmarked for 1997-98. For creation of irrigation potential, a target of 75 hectares has been fixed in the plan.

SOCIAL FORESTRY

In 1996-97 a sum of Rs.32.05 lakh was incurred. 190 hectares of area was covered under the social forestry scheme and 1.70 lakh plants were planted.

Rs.37.00 lakh had been earmarked for 1997-98. Five closures under the rehabilitation of denuded forests will be established.

INDUSTRIES

In industries sector, an amount of Rs.56.78 lakh was spent in 1996-97. The district industries centre made fifty formal and 100 provisional registrations and provided training to 427 educated unemployed youth in various crafts.

Rupees 61.34 lakh had been provided in 1997-98 plan for the industries sector. 250 unemployed youth would be trained in different trades and crafts whereas fifty five formal and 100 provisional registerations would be made during the period.

TRIBE SUB-PLAN (TSP)

District Poonch has a sizeable tribal population comprising Gujjars and Bakerwals.

During 1996-97, an expenditure of Rs.119.72 lakh, as provided by the Centre under special central assistance, was incurred under the TSP.

Under the TSP, potable drinking water was provided in 15 hamlets whereas 4 hamlets were electrified. Seven hundred hectares of land was covered under HYV crops. In horticulture 14 compact and 60 individual orchards were established, 217 trainees got training in knitting whereas in cooperatives sector, 7 cooperative societies were strengthened. In addition,27 labour oriented works were also completed.

A sum of Rs.2.38 crore was to be spent under the TSP during 1997-98. This allocation included Rs.40 lakh under PHE. Rs.50 lakh under power, Rs.15 lakh each under sheep and animal husbandry, Rs.13 lakh for horticulture development and Rs.3 lakh under industries.

The TSP allocation also included Rs.12 lakh for the construction of the houses of nomads.

P & T

The district has 62 post offices covering 168 villages. Telegraph facility is available at Poonch, Mandi, Surankote and Mendhar. The net work of telecommunication system in the district comprises over 730 telephone connections, 58 PCOs including 17 Trunk PCOs. The district is connected with STD/ISD facility since March 1992 and has twelve telephone exchanges.

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BANKS

Banks are playing a key role in promoting development programme in the district. There are 24 Banks besides two Insurance Branches of Life Insurance Corporation of India and General Insurance Company. These are providing financial support for various economic and employment activities.

WILD LIFE

Thanks to the geographical and climatic conditions, the Poonch District has rich fauna Forests in the district covering an area of 83,914 acres constituting 29.60 per cent of the total land.

The district is inhabited by a fauna of both the oriental and palearctic. The rare mammals include the markhor, musk-deer, brown bear, leopard, ghoral and a number of other wild mammals.

The district is also inhabited by a number of avifaunal assemblage. Some of the birds which habitate different parts of the district from lower elevation to high altitude include the pheasant, black partridge, chakurs, snow cock kohlas, rock partridge moral and many other upland rare birds.

Poonch traditionally has a rich wild life. It had a well established Wild Life and Games Department before Independence with 41 Shikargahs and nine Markhor game reserves in Poonh Haveli tehsil alone. After 1947, all the Shikargahs in Poonch district came under heavy biotic pressure due to the urbanization and deforestation causing disturbances to the natural eco system. The illegal poaching has also done some damage to the Wild Life.

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FOLK SONGS

The languages of the people of Poonch are Gojri and Punchi. The latter is, according to Grieson, an offshoot of Punjabi, with Lendi dialect. The languages have rich folk-lores and folk songs. Most of the Punchi folk songs, like Punjabi, make women as their central theme. Many others relate to family feuds, some about the battles while some about marriage ceremonies, social rituals, social evils and superstitions. Chann, Kainchi, Sepaiah and Maiah are some of the popular folk songs of Poonchi and Gojri. Folk songs about fairs, festivals and seasons are always of shepherds and rustics. Folk ballads which are part of folk songs, speak of the bravery and heroism of the people of Poonch. Some folk ballads i.e. Jabtu, Shamash Khan and Nura still resound in mountains of the area. Folk songs of Poonch have passed on from one generation to another without any documentation. Now a serious effort has been made by various scholars to preserve these in literature in original form for posterity.

TREKKING

Poonch is a fascinating destination for trekkers and nature lovers. The lush green meadows and coniferous forests with rich wealth of flora and fauna have always been the source of attraction for adventurists. From times immemorial, hill folks, pilgrims and even the Europeans had been trekking over its hills to visit Kashmir as Poonch was an important town on the historic Mughal route for Kashmir.

Poonch and Kashmir Valley are separated by the gigantic Pir Panchal mountain range, whose highest peak TATAKUTI (15,560 ft.) falls in Poonch. It is said that the peak was visible even from Lahore on a clear day. Tatakuti is still a virgin peak throwing a formidable challenge to trekkers and mountaineers. There are several Apline lakes, viz Sukhsar, Neelsar, Bhagsar, Kaldachinsar and Nandsar which are surrounded by glaciers and snow capped peaks. Each of these high altitude lakes, cast a magic spell on the treasure of magnificence, natural beauty and heart throbbing sights. In winter these lakes freeze.

The historical water falls of Noorichamb and Nandhishul spell bound the visitors. In local dialect the passes, Alpine lakes and meadows are called 'Gallies", 'Sars' and 'Margs or Dhoks' respectively. Girjan, Panjtari, Isanwali, Nainsukh, Dharamarg, Pirmarg and Sarimastan etc. are the popular and beautiful meadows of tourist interest. The world renowned fiction writer late Krishan Chander, a native of Poonch, was greatly inspired by the scenic beauty of these spots and wrote a short story entitled 'GIRJAN KI EK SHAM'.

Though there are many trekking routes yet the popular routes of the district are, Poonch to Gulmarg viz Jammu Gali and Chor Gali, Poonch to Nandhishul via Loran, Poonch to seven Alpine lakes via Girjan and Panjtari, Poonch to Toshmaidan and Yusmarg via Nurpur Gali and Khaara Gali, Poonch to Tatakuti via Hill Kaka and Dhara Marg and poonch to Srinagar via Peer Marg.

PLACES OF INTEREST

There are several beautiful spots on the foothill of Pir Panchal mountain range. The district unfolds beautiful and breath taking trekking routes and is a new paradise for trekkers. Though the district abounds in numerous beautiful pilgrim and historic spots but 14 places have been identified as important ones having tremendous potential for tourism development by the administration.

BEHRAM GALA

Situated at the foothill of 8,600 ft. high Rattan Peak on the historic Mughal Road, about 45 kms. from Poonch town, Behramgala is small picturesque spot in a deep gorge. It is a small plateau surrounded by mountains and forests. Just near it is the confluence of the Chatta Pani and the Parnai streams which further adds to its otherwise scenic and natural beauty.

The village has a long history. The road on which it is located was originally known as Namak Road but was later rechristened to Mughal Road by Emperor Jahangir who passed through it. The name of the village was Bharo-Gali till 1542 A.D. as per the references available in Rajatarangini. It is said that it was renamed as Behram Gala after the local Jagirdar Behram Naik. After Akbar's invasion of Kashmir, this village became the base camp for invaders from 1542. It is also said that a number of battles were fought in this area. Ruins of stone fort built by Behram Naik on the hillock are some monuments which throw light on the history of this place.

Apart from the historical background, two shrines of Hindus and Muslims are among the chief attractions of this spot. It is also take off point for trekking expeditions and one track goes to Girjan, the Valley of seven lakes.

NOORI CHHAMB

A famous water fall in the district also connected with the Mughal Emprerors is located in the north east of Behram Gala. This water fall is yet another scenic spot which has tremendous tourist potential. The fall of the stream gives rise to dense cloud of water vapours which engulfs the area and spread all over. It is claimed that in the past there used to be a 90 metre fall from the elevated mound. With the passage of time the stream cut into the rock and the mound and the height of the fall became much smaller. But its beauty persists even now.

The Empreror Jahangir had developed so much fancy and liking for this fall that he named it Noori Chamb after the name of his beloved queen Noorjahan. Historians believe that Jahangir stayed there for atleast 13 times.

BUFFLIAZ

Another beautiful hilly spot situated on the foothill of Peer Ratten range is Buffliaz, 39 kms east of Poonch town. The village, named after the horse of Alexander the great (Bunifales) who is said to have died there, is situated on both the banks of Poonch river. This charming place also provides beautiful tracks for trekkers who pass through fascinating and virgin passes.

LORAN

A small town situated 34 kms north of Poonch town was once the capital of Poonch State under Hindu ruler upto 1542. According to Rajatarangini, it was then known as Lohar Kote. There are ruins of the Lohar Kote Fort which was called as Gateway of Kashmir but now it is destroyed. At this fort, Raja Trilochan Pal defeated Sultan Mahmood Gaznavi. The spot is surrounded by forests and some snow clad peaks. One gets a fascinating view of Peer Panchal range.

Besides two famous Ziarats of Chandan Shah and Sain Illahi Baksh, which are visited by hundreds of people, there is a water fall about 7 kms away which is known as Mandichool.

SURANKOT

In Rajatarangini, this town was described as Sawernik in the past. Arround 1036 A.D. there was a big fort called Kote. Combining the name of the town with the fort, it became Sawernik Kote which ultimately changed to its present name of Surankote.

It is very charming valley surrounded by snow clad peaks and is known as Pahalgam of Poonch.

GAGRIAN SAWJIAN

About 45 kms. from Poonch, this village is situated in the famous Mandi Valley in the north west at the foothill of Chor Panchal Pass. It could be a base camp for trekkers and climbers who would trek towards Chor Panchal and there to Khilanmarg, Gulmarg and Tangmarg. Forests add to its salubrious climate.

KRISHNA GHATI

This beautiful hilly and forest area is located 24 kms. from Poonch town. The hill top, known as Krishna Gahti, gives a commanding view of natural scenic beauty. The area is connected with a dependable road.

TOTAN WALI GALI

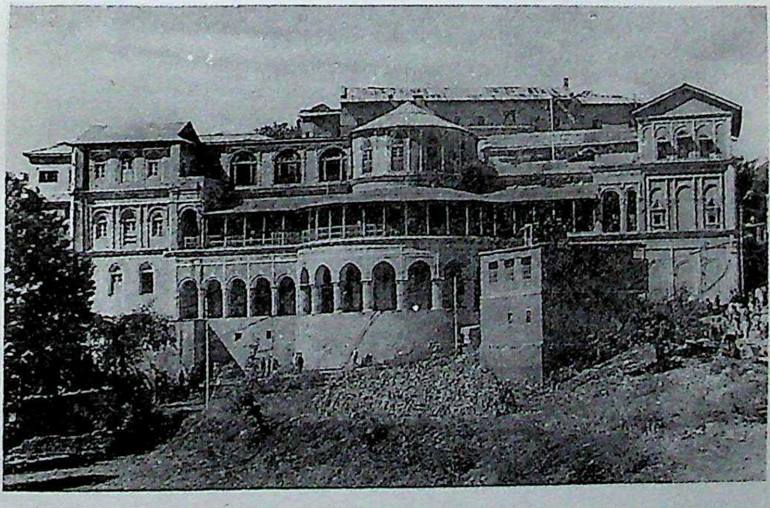
Another beautiful and fascinating hill top in Poonch is situated 43 kms. from Poonch town. The area unfolds unmatched scenic beauty amidst forests.

GIRJAN

It is a bewitching valley of seven lakes. This Valley is located about 70 kms. from Poonch town. This area is also important from trekking point of view. Neel Sar, Nandan Sar, Katora Sar are among the fascinating high altitude lakes. Several trekking expeditions used to come in this valley and trek to these lakes.

POONCH FORT

The foundation of historic fort building in the capital truncated Poonch district, was laid by Raja Abdul Razak Khan in 1713 A.D.The actual construction work was started by his illustrious son Raja Rustam Khan who was a great lover of architecture and after whose name Poonch was



Poonch Fort

known as Rustam Nagar. Originally the Fort was planned as a composite structure for the fortification of the town as well as for housing the royal palace.

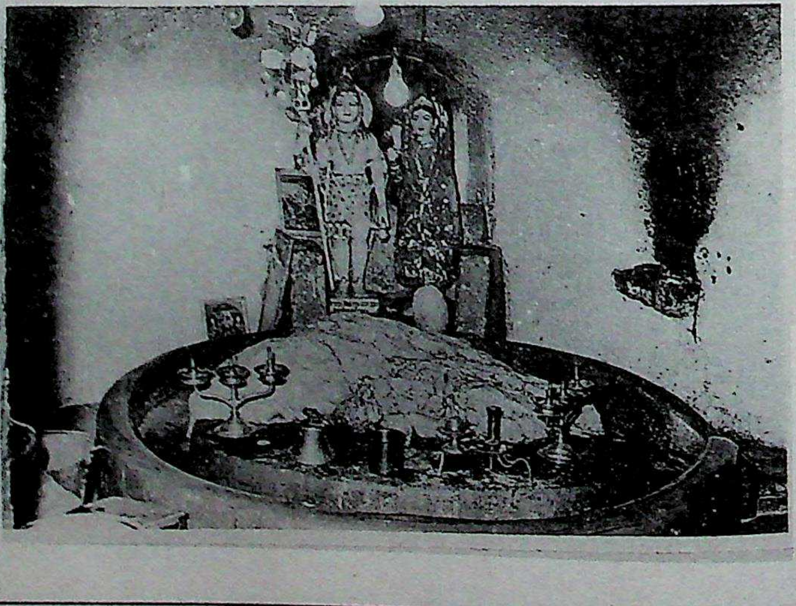
Although Raja Rustam Khan originally belonged to the Rathore clan of Rajasthan, the architectural style of the fort had distinct Mughal influence but quality of construction had not reached perfection of better known Mughal buildings.

During the Sikh rule (1819-1916) the central block of the building was added which bears the influence of Sikh architectural style. The present shape of the fort building owes to the benevolence of Raja Moti Singh (1850-1892) who engaged a European architect to design the frontal block of the fort. The work done was so superb that appearance of the fort changed into a place of beauty which dominates the entire town of Poonch.

PILGRIM CENTRES

BUDDHA AMARNATH

Twenty five kms in the north east of Poonch town is situated an ancient

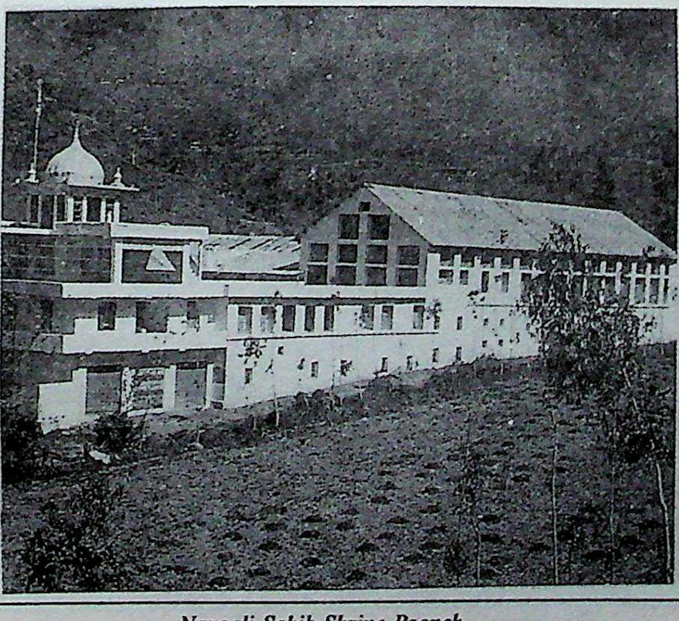


Buddha Amarnath (Poonch)

temple of Lord Shiva on the left bank of Pulsata stream. The area is known as Rajpura Mandi, two kms. above Mandi village. This is a unique Shiva Temple which is located on the foot hill and not on the hill top and secondly the Shivling of white stone is not self-made. The stream which flows near it, is the Loran stream but it is believed by the locals that Ravan's grand father Pulasta Rishi performed his tapasya and thus is known as Pulsata stream. This shrine is said to be older than of Amarnathji of Kashmir. Thousands of people visit on Raksha Bandhan. Before partition, many people used to visit this shrine from areas now occupied by Pakistan.

RAM KUND

Another well known shrine located about 68 kms. from Poonch town is that of Ram Kund. Believed to be of the Mahabharat period, it is just 11 kms. away from Mendhar. The temple was said to be constructed by Raja Lalitaditya while others believe that Raja renovated it, and originally it was constructed by Lord Rama when he was on his way to Kashmir. There are three springs. People take a bath in these springs.



Nangali Sahib Shrine Poonch

ZIARAT SAIN

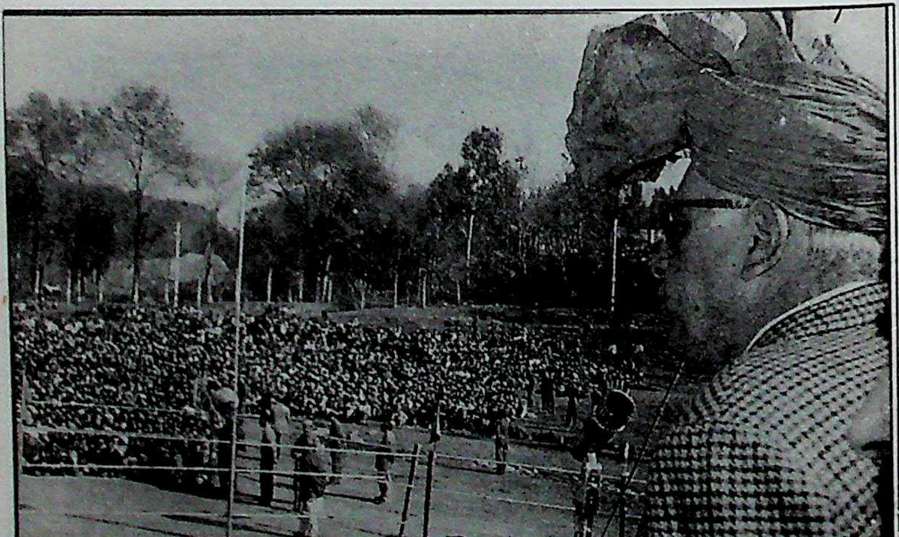
Situated in village Guntrian, 10 kms. from Poonch, the Ziarat of Saint Sain Mira Sahib is a popular pilgrim centre. Hundreds of devotees visit this Ziarat.

NANGALI SAHIB

Nangali Sahib Gurudwara is situated on the left bank of Drungli Nallah, which is four kms. away from Poonch city. This Gurudwara was established by Sant Bhai Mela Singh who is said to have visited this shrine in 1810 A.D. when he was on his way to conquer Kashmir. This place has got great religious importance and attachment to devotees. Thousands of pilgrims of all religions throughout the country come to this place every year.

ZIARAT CHHOTAY SHAH

Located 58 kms. away from Poonch and 4 kms. from Mendhar, this Ziarat is situated in village Sakhimaidan. Hundreds of pilgrims come to this place every day.



CM Addressing Public Meeting at Maindar

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COMPERATIVE STATEMENT OF YEAR WISE EXPENDITURE (IN LAKH)

Sector	Expdt. 92-93	Expdt. 93-94	Expdt. 94-95	Expdt. 95-96	Outlay 96-97	Expdt. 96-97	Expdt. 92-97
Agriculture & Allied Service	257.03	240.14	293.01	335.91	403.95	404.94	1531.03
Rural Dev.	91.18	171.01	107.34	205.12	239.05	217.87	792.52
Industries	45.07	45.01	55.13	58.30	70.70	65.76	269.35
Communication	114.79	117.02	152,25	173.91	243.90	320.90	878.87
Energy	8.00	96.00	98.00	169.00	152.00	156.46	527.46
Social & Gen.Services	686.54	657.29	641.27	836.19	1060.72	1041.79	3863.08
Others	-	1.46	2.70	3.97	3.23	3.72	11.85
Total:-	**1202.61**	**1327.93**	**1349.70**	**1782.48**	**2173.55**	**2211.44**	**7874.16**

WHO'S WHO

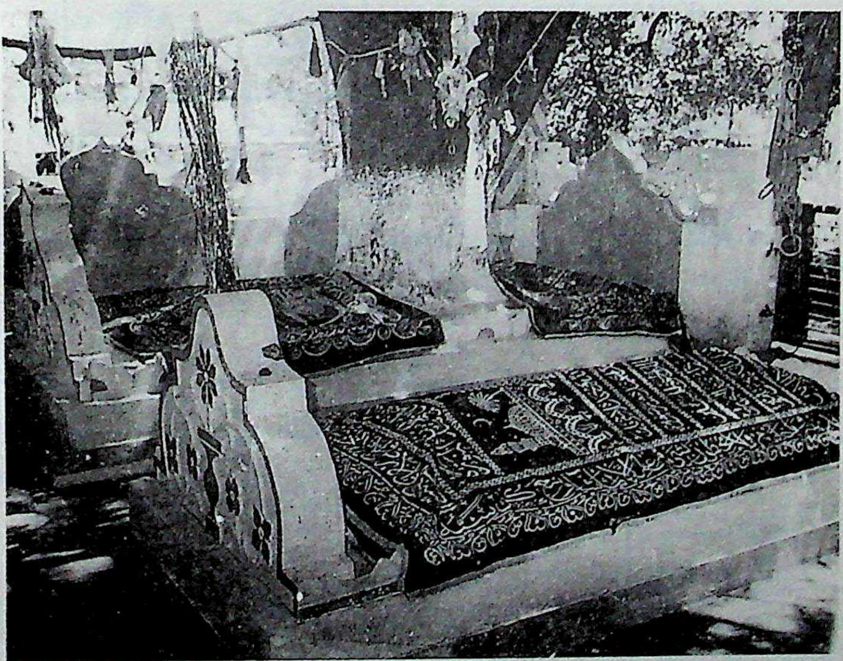
	Telephone Nos. STD Code 01965	
	Office	Residence
Sh.Nisar Ahmed Khan, Minister of State for Power		
Mohd.Din Bandey, Vice Chairman, Pahari Advisory Board Poonch		4415
Gh. Mohammad Jan MLA Haveli -do-		4326
Mushtaq AhmedBukhari MLA, Surankote Jammu		452568
Raheem Dad Khan MLC Mendhar		Mendhar 26139
Distt.Dev.Commissioner	4333	4347
Sr.Suptt. Police	4408	4399
S.E.Irrigation	4281	4269
Distt.Information Officer	4159	4323
Yash Pal Sharma Janta Dal leader	-	-
Bashir Ahmed Naz, Ex-MLA		4215
Distt.President (B.J.P)		4385
Distt. General Secy.(B.J.P)		21011
Ex-Speaker Lassan P.No.		227
President,Chamber of Commerce		4293
Congress leader Surankote	Shop 7030	
Mahant Manjit Singh Mahant Nangali Sahib		4285
G.M. Mir Poonchi Congress leader		4432

Ch.Lal Mohd. Sabir
Ex-Minister Mendhar

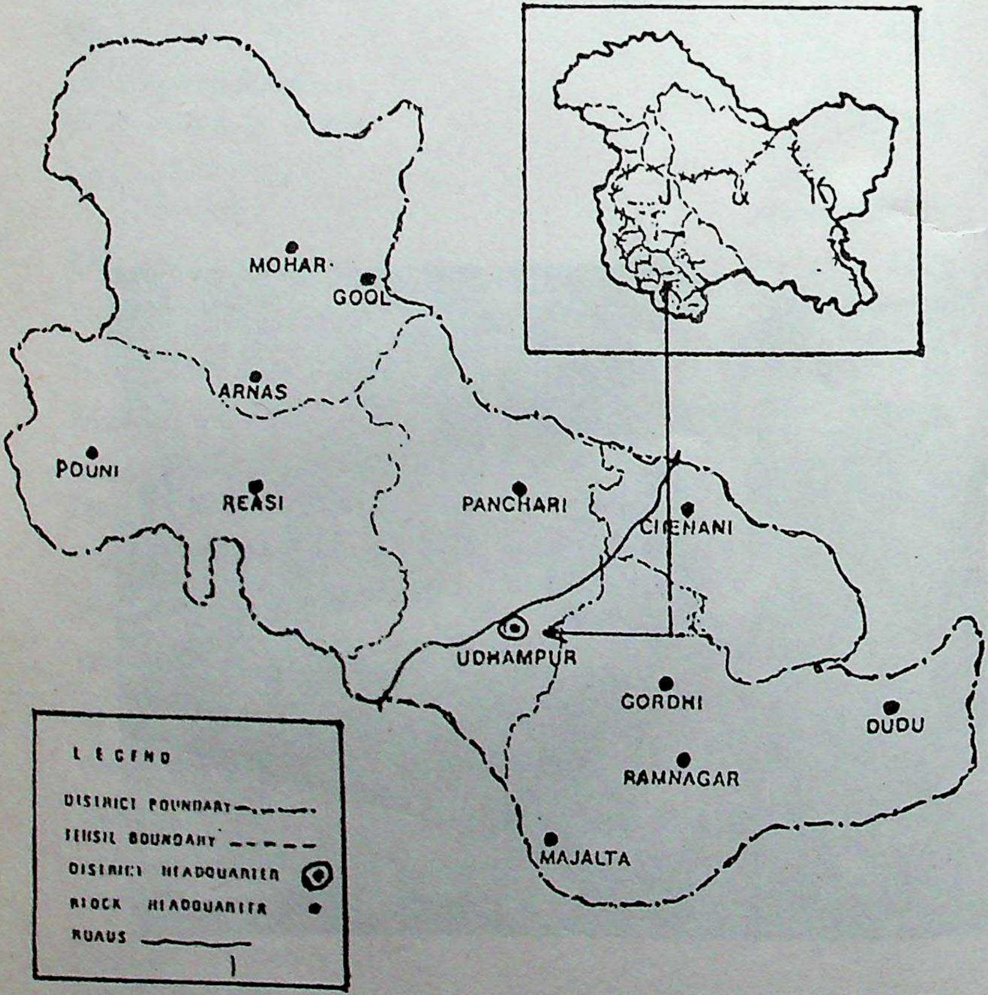
20. Rafiq Hussain Khan
Ex-Minister -do-

D.D.C.Poonch
Chairman Sh.Budha Amar Nath, 6253

Mandi Mandir (Trust)



UDHAMPUR DISTRICT


MOHAR
GOOL
ARNAS
POUNI
REASI
PANCHARI
CHENANI
UDHAMPUR
GORDHI
DUDU
RAMNAGAR
MAJALTA
LEGEND
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
TEHSIL BOUNDARY
DISTRICT HEADQUARTER
BLOCK HEADQUARTER
ROADS

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UDHAMPUR AT A GLANCE

Area		4550 Sq. Kms.
Forest Area		1945 Sq. Kms.
Population	(1991 est)	5.93 Lakh
	(1981 census)	4,53,635
Male		2,37,963
Female		2,15,673
Literacy percentage (1981 census)		23.52
Male		32.55
Female		13.55
Tehsils		5
Blocks		12
Towns		6
Panchayats		214
Villages		624 (6 uninhabited)
Educational Institutions		1214
Health Centres		315
Villages Electrified (3/97)		573
Villages provided potable water (3/97)		617
Cropped area		71,000 hectares
Area under Horticulture		10,775 hectares
Principal crop		Maize
Road Length		938.43 Kms
Industrial Units Regd.		2886
Live Stock population		6.00 lakh
Sheep		4.82 Lakh
Goat		3.14 Lakh
Bank Branches		52
Annual Plan 1997-98		43.98 Crores
Lok Sabha Constituency		Part of Udhampur seat

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Electorate(1998)	Male	Female	Total
Gulab Garh	24535	21117	45652
Reasi	40068	34120	74188
Gool Arnas	21921	19333	41254
Udhampur	40253	34404	74657
Chenani	30063	25061	55124
Ramnagar	39750	33191	72941
Total	**196590**	**167226**	**363816**

Fifth largest district of the State, Udhampur is situated in the southern part of J&K State and is bounded by Rajouri district in the north, by Anantnag, in north-east, by Doda district, in south-east by Kathua district and in the south-west by Jammu district. In 1948, Doda district was carved out of Udhampur district.

The district lies between 32 degrees- 34 minutes to 39 degree-30 minutes north latitude and 74 degree-16 minutes to 75 degree-38 minutes east-longitude. The district having an area of 4,550 Sq kms which accounts for 2.05% of the total provisional area of the State has been divided into five tehsils viz Udhampur, Ramnagar, Reasi, Chenani and Mahore. Administratively it is headquartered at Udhampur at a distance of 66 kms. from Jammu on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway.

The district has 624 villages including 6 un-inhabited, 12 community development blocks namely Udhampur, Chenani, Panchari, Ghordi, Ramnagar, Majalta, Dudu-Basantgarh, Reasi, Pouni, Arnas, Mahore and Gool. The blocks are further broken up into 214 gram panchayats. There are 6 towns in the districts, viz Udhampur, Reasi, Katra, Ramnagar, Chanani and Rehamble.

According to 1981 census, the district had a population of 4.54 lakh persons comprising 2.38 lakh males and 2.16 lakh females. It was estimated at 5.93 lakhs in 1991.

In 1991, the density of population in the district was 100 persons per sq. Km. as compared to 50 persons for the State. More than 90 per cent population lives in villages. The pace of urbanisation in the district is very slow as the percentage of urban to total population has risen from about 5 per cent in 1931 to 10 per cent only in last fifty years. There are 906 females per thousand males in the district against 892 for the State. According to 1981 count, the scheduled caste population accounted for 18.75% of the total population of the district against 8.31 per cent in the State. The total main working population of the district in 1981 was 1.43 lakh persons forming 31.62 per cent of the total population of the district. Of this, 69.47 per cent were cultivators, 0.78% agriculture labourers, 4.90 % engaged in live stocks, forestry, fisheries, hunting etc., 1.22% in household industry and the rest in other pursuits. Literacy rate in the district as per 1981 census was 23.52% against 26.67 % for the State. The rate among men was 32.55 % and among women 13.55% only. The total number of occupied residential houses in the district were reported to be as 79,469 house holds and average number of persons per house hold six.

Total reporting area of the district is 4.31 lakh hectares of which 1.92 lakh hectares is under forest. Net sown area is 71,000 hectares while 1,17,620 hectares is gross cropped area. Double cropping is being done in 0.70 lakh hectares.

Due to altitudinal variation ranging from 600 metres to 3000 metres there is wide variation in temperature in different parts of the district. The temperature rises sometimes as high as 42 degree celsius and very seldom goes below 1.5 degree celsius in low altitude areas. May, June and July are the hottest months when the mercury rises sometimes to 42 degree celsius. December, January and February are the coldest months when the temperature in some areas comes down to 1.5 degree celsius. Most of the rainfall takes place during July, August and September in summer while January and February in winter.

Agriculture holdings in the district are small. The average size of operational land holding in the district is 1.45 hectares against 0.86 hectares for the State. As per agriculture census of 1985-86 the number of operational holdings was 87,667 covering an area of 1,26,838 hectares. 77.02% holdings are upto 2 hectares, 22.65 per cent from 2 hectares to 10 hectares and 0.33% above ten hectares.

The Dogras of Udhampur are stout people with a tradition of culture and chivalry going back to the hoary past. Their contribution to the cultural heritage of India is priceless. Precious still are the annals of their chivalrous conquests of the Himalayan and trans-Himalayan territories which marked an achievement of national pride and placed Maharaja Gulab Singh in the frontline of the builders of India's destiny.

The district is rich in Mineral deposits like coal, bauxite, magensite, gypsum lime-stone etc. Coal and bauxite deposits occur in Jangalgali and Sukhalgali areas, magnesite deposits are located in Katra-Panthal area. Gulabgarh area is rich in good quality of gypsum. Palaeozi clay is found in Thakkursui, Tikri and around Kud.

Though Udhampur is drained by major rivers namely the Chenab, Ans, Tawi and Ujh yet due to mountaineous and undulating topography, much utilization of water is not possible. The district is mainly drought prone and only small area has been brought under irrigation. The famous Mansar Lake lies in the South-east of the district. The lake provides drinking water and is also one of beautiful tourist spots in the district.

Gigentic Hydro Electric Power Project- SALAL-with generation capacity of 690 MWs is complete. The first phase of 345 MWs was commissioned in November 1987. The lake formed due to construction of dam is being developed as a tourist spot.

The dilects of the area are Dogri, Pahari and Gojri. The folk dances are Kud, yatars and Bhangra. Kud dance is based on traditional Dogri folk, dance and performed mainly in Pancheri and Dudu-Basantgarh areas. The folk songs of the district are Lok-geet, Barran, Karkaan and Bhakha. Bhakha are certain songs sung independent of musical instruments.

The most precious possession of Udhampur district is the world famous Hindu shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi located in the sacred Trikuta Hills. Over four million devotees visit the shrine annually.

HISTORY

Udhampur had been named after Raja Udham Singh, the eldest son of Maharaja Gulab Singh, the founder of Dogra rule in Jammu and Kashmir. The town is said to have been built in place of dense forests to which Udham Singh occasionally went on hunting trips till he developed great love for the spot and chose it as site for a township.

The State of Bandraltha (Ramnagar) was captured from Raja Chander Dehar Dev by Maharaja Ranjit Singh. Later in 1822 the State was given to Raja Suchet Singh, the brother of Maharaja Gulab Singh.

Raja Suchet Singh constructed his palace and a fort and renamed Bandraltha as Ramnagar.

According to Gazetter of Kashmir, the square-built and turreted castle stands on one side of the flat, and opposite to it, a few hundred yard distant, is the palace. It is a picturesque and baronial-looking edifice, its appearance being by no means heavy, although it is chiefly composed of blank walls and square towers of unequal height and size.

Ramnagar fell into the hands of the Sikhs and about the same time the Gulab Singh became master of Jammu. The Raja fled to Subathu near Simla and died there, much regretted by his subjects. Suchet Singh, brother of Gulab Singh, was made the Raja of Ramnagar by Ranjit Singh. When Vigne visted the town, a large bazar and several streets were being built. When Suchet Singh first became Raja, he found its prosperity to be somewhat on the wane; he wisely continued the work of its re-establishment by the formation of new and comfortable places of abode; and hoping, moreover, to render them attractive and to increase the population as much as possible. He made Ramnagar a city of refuge and populated it with people from Peshawar, Tonk Baner, Multan, Lahore, Kashmir and other places.

Bandraltha (Ramnagar) is a hilly area. In its East there is situated Bisohli, the State of Raja Billowarya and Bhadoo the State of Bhadwals. In the north it is bounded by State Mankote (Ramkote) under the reign of Rajas Mankotia and on the west it is connected with the boundaries of States of Bhuti, Chrimchi and Chenani.

About 10 kms. from Udhampur in the North, at the foot of hills of Ladha, there existed the area of Bhuti and Chrimchi. Raja Kishik was the founder of Chrimchi. Krimchi a small village is famous for old temples.

CHENANI

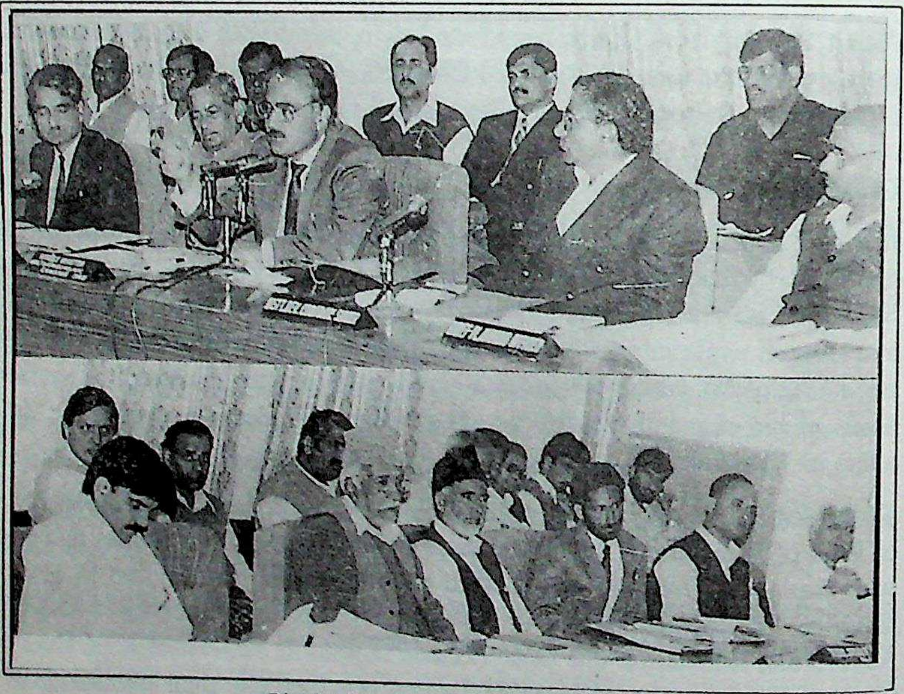
It is said that Chenani is snow bound area. Snow is called Him in Sanskrit and it is why the name of this whole area was kept as Himat or Hiwant. The Rajas of Chenani belonged to Chandail dynasty and were called as Hintal and Himtan while ruling this area. Raja Gamir Chand after some time in the beginning of 8th century founded a small town named "Chinhan" after the name of his chandail dynasty which subsequently became famous by the name of Chenani.

Sudh Mahadev during the time when Shiva married Paravati, the daughter of Raja of Himachal at this place, there lived a cruel person named Sudeva who was an extortionist and used to put the people of this area to great miseries. Mahadeva put him to his doom. In this way, after the name of Sudeva and Mahadeva, this place became famous as Sud-Mahadeva. Every year, pilgrims from in and around Jammu province pay their obeisance to Mahadeva at Sud-Mahadeva.

Sudh-Mahadev in Chenani area is one of the famous shrines of district Udhampur. Holy Devak originates from here. It is called Gupt Ganga. It does not flow through out the year but it is seasonal. It falls after traversing some distance into the river Tawi. In the South West of Sud-Mahadev, ther is Gouri Kund spring named after the real name "GOURI' or Parvati Devi. Sud-Mahadev is situated at a distance of 24 kms from Chenani. It is also one of the fast developing picturesque places.

DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

Since the introduction of concept of decentralization of planning the development scenario of the district has undergone a sea change. The outlay of annual plans get a step-up every year. The plan outlay has risen from about Rs. 21 crores in 1992-93 to Rs.30 crores in 1995-96. The district plan outlay for 1997-98 had been fixed at Rs.4398.04 which is 26% more than 1996-97. Of Rs.4398.04, Rs.1313.85 lakh for Power, PHE and R&B, Rs.744.42 lakh for Agriculture and Allied sectors, Rs.604.15 lakh for Rural Development and Rs.1010.57 lakh for Education.



District Development Board Meeting

District Plan 1997-98

(Rs.in lakhs)

S.No.	Sector	Outlay	Expenditure (Provisional)
1.	Agriculture & Allied Services	744.42	670.03
2.	Rural Development	604.15	1611.15
3.	Industries	103.23	98.16
4.	Communication	605.12	546.22

5.	Energy	185.00	183.94
6.	Social & General Services	2149.87	1838.20
7.	Others	6.25	5.60
	Total	**4398.04**	**4952.4**

(Including additionalities)

AGRICULTURE

The district is primarily agriculture based. The total reporting area of the district is 4.31 lakh hectares. Of this, 1.92 lakh hectares is under forest and 0.11 lakh hectares under pastures and other grazing lands, 0.71 lakh hectares net is sown area and 1,17,620 hectares is gross cropped area.

Agricultural activities are being supplemented through Draught Prone Area Programme which has been introduced in eight blocks of the district. In the remaining four blocks of Ramnagar tehsil, Agriculture Department is undertaking similar activities under the National Water-shed Development Programme.

A command Area Development Project has been taken up since 1991-92 on Duddar Canal area spread over 1593 hectares in 12 villages. 400 hectare area has been covered under various farm development works at the cost of Rs.21 lakhs. During 1997-98, Rs. 14 lakh were provided to be spent against Rs.7.60 lakh spent during 1996-97.

The main stress is being laid on conserving and utilizing natural sources like land, water, plants and animal etc. for ensuring economically sustainable and perpetually stable bio-system, to secure suitable growth of agriculture production to meet the growing needs of the district

During 1996-97 over 93,000 hectares of area was brought under high yielding variety of seeds. Over 4817 quintals of seeds were distributed. The honey production rose to 105.79 quintals and mushroom as 270.65 quintals. An amount of Rs.46.69 lakh was spent on this sector. Rs.59.14 lakh had been earmarked for 1997-98.

HORTICULTURE

An area of 10,775.6 hectares stand covered under fruit plantation in the district. An additional area of 677 hectares was covered. The district produced about 20,000 metric tonnes of fruit and over one lakh fruit saplings were planted and 20,000 trees top-worked during 1996-97. An amount of Rs. 68 lakhs was spent on various schemes during 1995-96.

During the year 1996-97, an additional area of 589.52 hectares was covered. The district produced 10662 metric tonnes of fruit and over 96300 plants were planted and 32000 trees top worked during the year. An amount of Rs.70.54 lakh was spent on various schemes during 1996-97. For 1997-98 Rs.79.42 lakh had been earmarked.

A Fruit Preservation and Extension Centre, was established at Udhampur in 1982 to provide facilities for processing fruit and vegetables into valuable products like, jams, jellies, preserved pickles, juices and squashes etc. Month-long training programmes to educate people in the field of preservation of fruit and vegetables are organised by the department. The centre processed over five metric tonnes of fruits and other products during 1996-97 and also trained 50 persons in the art of processing during 1996-97. The centre has targetted to train 30 persons in processing and would organise 50 demonstrations in rural areas for the purpose. about three metric tonnes of fruits annually.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Rearing of animals is an important occupation of the village-folk in general and nomadic population of Gujjars, Bakerwals and Gaddis in particular. The total population of livestock in the district is about of 3.75 lakh cattle and 2.25 lakhs buffaloes. Presently, 25 per cent of the cattle are of improved variety. A floating population of over one lakh cattle and buffaloes also adds to the live-stock population of the district when the migratory population settles down at various places in the district during winter.

During 1995-96 Rs.70 lakh were spent for providing health and breeding facilities to improve the quality of local livestock in the district. Health cover was provided to 17 lakh animals during the year. During 1996-97, Rs.218.707 lakh were utilized on this sector when over 5.52 lakh animals were provided health cover.

The district has five poultry demonstration centres and 887 backyard poultry farms in the district.

The department had proposed to spent Rs.250.00 lakh during 1997-98.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY

Sheep and goat population of the district is 4.82 lakh and 3.14 lakhs respectively. The population includes migratory, semi-migratory and local flocks. The district has 91 Sheep and Wool Extension Centres in Udhampur,

CC-

Ramnagar, Mahore and Reasi tehsils. Besides, there are three mobile centres/ transit camps for providing health and breeding cover to the migratory sheep and goat population. About 50 per cent of sheep and goat population has been covered under cross breeding. During 1995-96, 787 quality rams were distributed and 5.46 lakh kg. of wool and 16.4 lakh kg of mutton was produced in the district and Rs. 36 lakh were spent on this sector.

During 1996-97, Rs.44.62 lakh were spent on this sector. As many as 885 quality rams were distributed. The production of wool was reduced to 4.99 lakh kg.and that of mutton raised to 17.76 lakh kg.

The department envisaged to spent Rs.52.08 lakh during 1997-98 on this sector.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

IRDP

Integrated Rural Development Programme constitutes a major Component of Rural Development Agency. As many as 4009 income generating units were set up at a cost of Rs. 330.143 lakhs, including subsidy component of Rs.111.575 lakhs, during 1994-96. Of these 1981 income generating units were set up during 1995-96.

During 1996-97, 1683 income generating units were set up involving loan of Rs.157.625 lakh and subsidy of Rs.61.25 lakh.

This programme has served as a boon for the rural poor of the district. In view of the facts that the district is hilly and abounds in pastures, stress has been laid to help the rural poor in setting up of Animal Husbandry Units especially milch cattle units. Rs.71.30 lakh had been earmarked under IRDP in the district plan of 1997-98.

TRYSEM

The training of Rural Youth and Self Employment programme is also a centrally sponsored Scheme for training rural unemployed youth (men and women) between the age of 18 to 35 years from the identified families. This is to enable them to "Learn & Earn". This scheme used to be a part of IRDP scheme, but now TRYSEM has been given a separate identity and funds. The main purpose of the scheme is to provide technical knowhow and appropriate skill to the youth, so that after getting trained, they are in a position to go in for self employment ventures, or seek wage employment.

As many as 40 youth were trained in TRYSEM Programme during 1994-95 involving Rs. 5.83 lakhs. During 1995-96 an amount of Rs. 22.466 lakhs was spent to train 664 youth in the district. During 1996-97, 719 youths were trained and Rs.11.803 lakh were spent.

DWCRA

For development of Women and Children in Rural Areas this scheme was extended in the district in 1990 with the twin objectives of providing economic and social justice to women and also organising women folk belonging to poor families to undertake group activities. The Scheme aimed at improving overall status of women and supplement their family income by setting up of more and more income generating units. The scheme also increases female literacy besides reducing the morbidity and mortality rate of infants,children,expectant and nursing mothers.

To provide employment opportunities special efforts have been made with active co-operation of Shri Gandhi Sewa Sadan, Jammu to provide technical training of wool Amber Charkhas, Polyster Amber Charkha, raw material and marketing support. During 1994-95, 46 women groups were constituted to get themselves engaged in self employment schemes. Fifty one groups were provided with Revolving Funds amounting to Rs. 7.752 lakhs. Forty two DWACRA groups have started economic activities.

Similarly 61 women groups were formed in 1995-96 and 57 groups were provided with Revolving Fund amounting to Rs. 8.66 lakhs.

During 1996-97, 92 women groups were formed and 18 such groups started economic activities. An amount of Rs.11.546 lakhs was spent on the scheme.

JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJANA (JRY)

Sustained attack on rural poverty through implementation of this yojana has helped providing succour to a vast population of poor and landless agricultural labourers in the district. Community assets like roads, bridle paths, irrigation khuls, ponds have been completed in the district.

Over 1423 rural development works were completed in the district during 1994-95 generating 5.966 lakh mandays work. An amount of Rs. 238.794 lakhs was spent under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana during 1994-95. During 1995-96 about 500 rural works were completed generating 2.072 lakh mandays work and involving an amount of Rs. 91.25 lakhs.

Intensified Jawahar Rozgar Yojana was introduced in the district to complete the development works already taken in hand under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana.

During 1997-98 the rural development department had kept a target for completion of 306 works involving Rs.156.94 lakh. Over two lakh mandays were generated.

EMPLOYMENT ASSURANCE SCHEME (EAS)

This scheme was extended in 1993-94 initially in eight blocks and 54746 families were benefitted during the first year. Over 72,500 works were taken upto 1994-95 and completed during 1995-96.

An amount of Rs. 546.34 lakhs was expended and 14.30 lakh mandays were generated during 1994-95 completing 1941 works. During 1995-96, 16.60 lakh mandays were generated. The scheme has been extended to remaining four blocks also since 1995-96.

During 1996-97, 2726 works were taken up and 1623 works were completed generating 9.513 lakh mandays. An amount of Rs.574.834 lakh was spent.

During 1997-98,2550 works were expected to be completed by spending Rs.1210 lakh thereby generating 16.30 lakh mandays.

I.C.D.S.

Four hundred eighteen Integrated Child Development Schemes are functioning in the district spread over seven blocks of the of the district namely Udhampur, Reasi, Ramnagar, Mahore, Ghordi, Basantgarh and Pouni.

During the year 1997-98, 141 ICD Centres had been sanctioned in the rest of the five blocks of the district. The district comprises of 12 community blocks. Children in the age group of 6 months to six years and expectant mothers/nursing mothers numbering 16000 were benefitted during 1996-97.

FORESTS

The area under forests is about 1945 Sq.Kms. which constitutes about 43.22 per cent of the geographical area of the district. The predominant crops of the district in this sector are conifers, having the composition of Deodar over an area of 2613 hectares, Kail over 13347 hectares, Fur over 24695 hectares, Chir over 43977 hectares where as broad leaf crops cover an area of 34245 hectares. The remaining forest area is mostly blank or lying in uncommercial conditions. Four territorial divisions and a Social Forestry Division have been operating to bring more and more areas under afforestation and minimise degradation. For this, rehabilitation of degraded forests and the work components have been systemised by undertaking the operations on Micro watershed basis.

During 1994-95 and 1995-96 Rs.22.93 lakh were spent on soil conservation, Rs.27.600 lakhs on social forestry, and Rs. 19.53 lakhs on territorial sector each financial year and 2.30 lakh saplings planted. To improve forestry in the district, work on a Centrally sponsored Trikuta Hills Project and Waterland Development Project, Minor Forest Produce Project (under Social Forestry) Chenani Project, Integrated Water Shed Development Programme(Undder Forest sector) and Jungle Gali Project (under DRDA) are in full swing.

Rs.7.49 lakh were spent on soil conservation and Rs.32.54 lakh on territorial sector while Rs.33.73 lakh were spent on Social Forestry. As many as 4.65 plants were planted in the district during 1996-97.

Rupees 29.62 lakh had been earmarked for 1997-98.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

Total motorable road length maintained by both R&B and other organisations in the district is 938.43 Kms. In addition, 47 foot bridges which connect sizeable number of population both in rural and urban areas have been completed. Out of 624 villages of the district, 256 villages stand connected with roads.

During 1994-95, 28 Kms. of road length (21 kms. metalled 5 kms. shingled and 2.05 kms. fair weather) was added. During 1995-96, the net work of roads was further strengthened by black topping of 25 Kms. and construction of 9 Kms. of fair weather roads. During 1995-96 Rs. 336 lakhs were spent on road construction programme as against Rs. 243 lakhs during 1994-95.

During the year 1996-97, over 49 kms of road length was added including black topping of 1 km. metalling of 16 kms, shingalling of 12.5 kms and construction of 20 kms fair weather road. During 1996-97, Rs.281.44 lakh were spent on the construction works under PWD sector, Rupees 597.12 lakh had been earmarked for 97-98 under District plan to improve the net work of roads and bridges.

POWER

As many as 573 villages out of total number of 624 including 6 un-inhabited villages stand electrified. The number of hamlets electrified in the district is 732. During 1996-97 two villages 18 hamlets

and nine Harijan basties were electrified. About Rs.207 lakh were expended on this sector under district plan during 1996-97. Rupees 185 lakh had been earmarked for execution of various works during 1997-98.

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING

The drinking water facilities have been extended to Urban and rural areas simultaneously.Out of 618 inhabited villages, 596 villages have been provided with tapped drinking water facility. The remaining 22 villages were taken up for coverage during 1993-94 and 1994-95 against which Rs.346.944 lakhs were spent under Minimum Needs Programme while during 1995-96.Rs. 41.7 lakhs were utilized in providing drinking water in seven villages and 58 hamlets. By March 1996, 603 villages have been covered under PHE schemes.

As many as 617 villages have been provided drinking water facility benefitting over 4.22 lakh souls in the district. An amount of Rs.533.73 lakh had been earmarked for the year 1997-98.

FISHERIES

During 1995-96,Rs.3.25 lakhs were spent on development of fisheries. The department of Fisheries has started propagation of fast growing fish species like Indian Carps.Emphasis are also being laid on replenishment of the dwindling stock of the world famous game fish.'Mahasheer' seed for which is reared at Anji Fish Farm Reasi and released into the rivers. A fish seed farm at Tib is being established to meet demand of the area.

The department has also taken up Reservoir Fisheries Development Project at Thanpal (Salal) to introduce Angling in the district.

During 1996-97 an amount of Rs.3.44 lakh was spent on this sector and 90,000 advanced fingerlings were reared at Anji Fish Dams. At present 1.05 thousand tonnes fish is being caught from rivers and streams in the district which amounts to an annual turnover of Rs.35.00 lakh. Rupees 5.84 lakh were earmarked for 1997-98.

COOPERATION

In the cooperative sector, short term and medium term loans amounting to Rs. 1.43 crores were distributed and consumer goods worth Rs. 113 lakhs sold during 1995-96.

During 1996-97, short term and medium term loans amounting to Rs.336.79 lakh were distributed and consumer goods worth over Rs.118 lakh,were sold.Rs.13.98 lakh were earmarked for 1997-98.

SERICULTURE

During 1995-96, Rs. 13 lakhs were spent in this sector.One lakh seventy thousand Kgs. of cocoons were produced and 2.32 lakh mulberry saplings planted during this period.

During 1996-97, Rs.15.16 lakh were spent under this sector. Over 1.88 lakh kg. of cocoons were produced and 3.616 lakh mulberry saplings planted and silk worm rearers earned Rs.1.20 crores through sale of silk cocoons. It is practised in 476 villages involving 5662 rearing families covering an area of 1358 kanals under mulberry plantation in the district. Fifty two incubation centres were set up and 6000 ozs. of seed were distributed among the cocoon rearers during 1996-97.

HEALTH

At present, there are 315 Medical Institutions in the district which include one District Hospital,three Sub-District Hospitals, 30 Primary Health Centres, 32 Sub Centres,28 Medical Aid Centres besides 30 Allopathic Dispensaries and 125 Family Welfare Centres and 43 Ayurvedic/Unani dispensaries mostly in rural areas operating at present.

During 1996-97, two Primary Health Centres were opened by up-grading medical aid centres at Lander and Laiter, eight more sub-centres were also opened. Rs.204.366 lakh were spent on providing health cover to people. For 1997-98 an amount of Rs.289.19 lakh had been earmarked.

EDUCATION

The number of educational institutions in the district has risen to 1214. This include 2 Government Degree Colleges, 17 Higher Secondary Schools, 80 High Schools, with 174 Middle and 941 Primary Schools.There are 433 Adult Education Centres functioning at Mahore and Udhampur to educate adults.

A District Institute of Education is located at Reasi which imparts training and re-orientation courses to the teachers to acquaint them with new techniques of education as per NCERT pattern.

During 1995-96, ten Primary Schools were opened besides adding 6th class in seven schools,7th class in six schools and 8th class in four schools.One middle school was upgraded to High School level. Rs.636 lakhs were utilized for imparting education and School Buildings Construction Programme during 1995-96.

During 1996-97, 10 primary schools were opened, besides, adding 6th class in seven schools, 7th class in six schools, 8th class in four schools. Two middle schools were upgraded to High Schools level and one High School to 10 plus two level. Rs.790.485 lakh were utilized for improving education and school building during 1996-97.

SOCIAL WELFARE

The department of Social Welfare has been running various schemes i.e. welfare of Scheduled castes, weaker sections and other Backward classes. The department has been providing financial assistance to school going children belonging to these communities by way of scholarships, uniforms, re-imbursement of examination fee and stipend were distributed. Under the Housing Subsidy Scheme, the houseless persons belonging to these communities are being provided with assistance to enable them to construct their own houses.

During 1994-95, Rs. 24 lakhs were spent in five NES Blocks of the district. During 1995-96, the department distributed prosthetics to 13 and scholarships to 89 students. Under welfare of Scheduled castes/Other Backward classes, pre-matric scholarships to 10,423 students and stipend to 33 ITI trainees were distributed. Examination fee in favour of 141 students was re-imbursed. Under Nutrition Programme, 13,000 children upto six years of age and about 3,000 nursing/expectant mothers were covered. Over Rs. 56 lakhs were spent under Nutrition and welfare of Scheduled Caste and other backward classes during 1995-96.

During 1996-97, Rs.34.386 lakh were spent under social welfare sector including welfare of scheduled caste and other backward classes. The department distributed prosthetic aid to 15 and scholarships to 85 handicapped students respectively.

Under welfare of scheduled caste/other backward classes, prematric scholarships were distributed to 12578 students and stipend to 37 ITI trainees, examination fee in favour of 286 students was also re-imbursed.

An amount of Rs.53.82 lakh had been earmarked for the welfare programmes of scheduled castes and other backward classes in the district during 1997-98.

INDUSTRIES

As many as 2886 small industrial units stand registered with the District Industries Centre, Udhampur by March,1997.

Four training centres, two in knitting and one each in leather and woolen drugget have been functioning in the district. As many as 1254 trainees were trained ending March,1997. Of these, 157 were trained in leather, 151 in woolendrugget and 946 in knitting work.

HANDICRAFTS

22 Handicraft Training Centres are functioning in different parts of the district. The trainees are trained in phoolkari, stapple, carpet, crewel and calico printing. During 1995-96 as many as 294 trainees were trained while in 1996-97, 342 trainees were also trained bringing total number of trainees to 6312 by March,1997. Three co-operative societies were formed during 1996-97 and 74 persons were provided employment through these cooperative societies during 1996-97. An amount of Rs.36.84 lakh was spent on this sector during 1996-97 and Rs.40.69 lakh have been earmarked for 1997-98.

During 1997-98, five cooperative societies were proposed to be formed which would provide employment to more than hundred people.

HANDLOOMS

During 1996-97 as many as 40 trainees were trained. Out of five centres, four centres have been imparting training in weaving and one centre in readymade garments. An amount of Rs.5.71 lakh was utilized during 1996-97. Rs.7.13 lakh were earmarked for 1997-98.

GUJJARS AND BAKERWALS

Rs.23.43 lakhs were spent during 1996-97 on welfare of Gujjar and Bakerwal communities. There is one hostel for these students with a capacity of 100 inmates. As many as 5407 students of these communities were granted scholarships during 1996-97. Rupees 28.24 lakh were earmarked for 1997-98. The government has provided five teachers for coaching of 6th to 1oth class students and five lecturers have also been arranged for coaching of science subjects to the students of 11th and 12th classes, besides normal schooling in various government schools in Udhampur town. Besides free board and lodge, the inmates of the hostel are being provided with free books, stationery articles, school uniforms and medicare. The Government has also been arranging educational tours for these inmates.

MEDIA

There are two VLPT relay centres one each at Udhampur and Sanji Chat (Katra) functioning in the district. Three weeklies - two in English and one in Urdu - are published from the district.

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Food and Supplies department is supplying ration through a net work of 47 Sales depots and 175 fair price shops operating in Udhampur district. Over 82.700 quintals atta, over one lakh quintals of rice, 27670 quintals Sugar and over two lakh quintals of wheat were distributed in 1996-97 by the department.

P & T

There are 161 Post Offices including one Head Post Office, 136 branch post offices, 24 Sub post offices and 13 Telegraph offices functioning in different parts of the district. Fifty Scheduled Commercial Banks are also functioning in the district.

SHRINES AND TOURIST PLACES

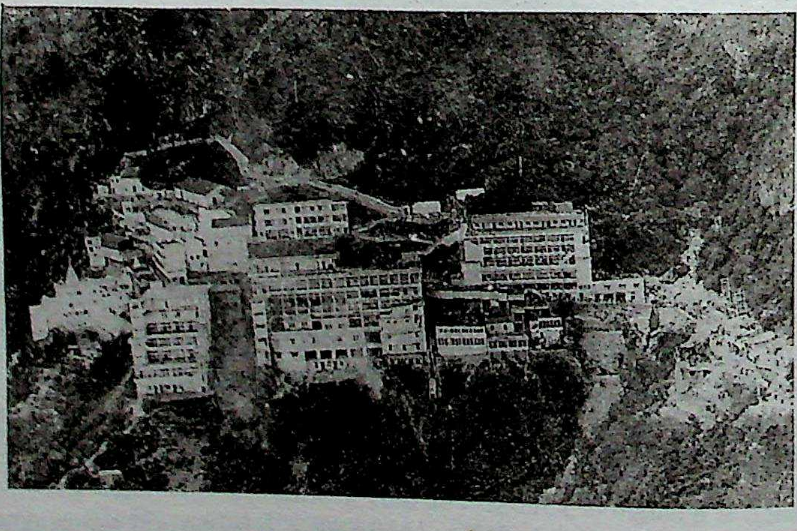
A number of places of pilgrimage/ tourist interest are located in the district. These places attract a large number of tourist-cum-pilgrims.

SHRI MATA VAISHNO DEVI SHRINE

Located at a height of 5300 feet on holy Trikuta Hills, 13 Kms. from Katra town, the holy cave shrine of Mata Vasihnodevi Ji is one of the most popular Shrines of the country.In early eighties, the number of visiting pilgrims was just more than 10 lakhs annually but their number increased steeply after the historic reforms initiated with the taking over of the shrine by a statutory independent Board under the Chairmanship of the then Governor, Sh. Jagmohan on August 30,1986. These reforms were carried forward with equal zeal by successive Governors- Mr. Girish Chander Saxena and Mr. K.V.Krishan Rao. A number of new projects have been taken up by the present Governor. The annual pilgrims figure has reached all time high figure of 40.12 lakh in 1995. In 1996 this record is likely to be surpassed atleast by three to four lakhs if one goes by the present pilgrim traffic. Since then the Board has spent Rs. 74.76 crores (upto May '96) on improving condition and amenities for the yatris. This has totally transformed the condition.

The Goddess Vaishnodevi's abode is in a 100 feet long cave with a narrow opening. The holy Ganga's cold and crystal clear water washes the lotus feet of the mata's 'Pindian'. There are three natural pindies of Maha Saraswati, Maha Lakshmi and Mahakali which represent creative, preservative and destructive aspects of the divine energy. It is an ancient shrine whose, reference is found in the Vedas and other ancient scriptures.

Previously the Shrine had only one natural entry cave, but now two more exit caves have been constructed. One of the exit cave was constructed by



Vaishno Devi Bhawan

Dharmarth Trust and the second exit by the Shrine Board which is 42 meters in length. The traditional cave had the intake capacity of only 3,700 pilgrims daily which was increased to 7,000 with the construction of one exit.

SUDHMAHADEV AND MANTALAI

The historic Sudhmahadev temple is said to be 2800 years old. According to popular legend, the trident housed within the temple, belonged to the asctic God who killed demon there. The temple has a black marble self-made lingam and Goddess Parvati mounted on the Nandi. It has a Dhooni to commemmorate the spiritual attainments of Baba Roop Nath who is said to have attained Samadhi here. It is said that the Dhooni has been kept burning constantly ever since Baba Roop Nath is said to be residing in the temple.

Thousands of pilgrims visit the temple especially during 3-day fair held on the occasion of Jeshta Purnima. Before entering the temple the pilgrims take bath in the holy Devika which flows nearby.

The beautiful location of Sudhmahadev temple and Mantalai Ashram adds to the beauty of the place. The site gives commanding scenic view of the area.

A popular legend is associated with this shrine. It is believed that Lord Shiva who was in his samadhi shot his big trishul to protect his consort Uma whose loud cry shook Shiva out of his meditation. In fact Shiva's devotee, Sudheet approached Uma to pay his respectful obeisance. Since he was a demon in his earlier birth according to the legend, his demonaic looks frightened her and she made a loud shriek. The Trident which Lord Shiva had flung hit Sudheet. Shiva realised his mistake and he offered to resuscitate him. But Sudheet felt that there could not be better death than at the hands of his lord. Lord Shiva then gave His command that Sudheet's name will be prefixed to his name at that place. Since then it is called Sudh-Mahadev. The broken trident in three pieces, is installed in the temple.

SHIV KHORI is a wonderful natural cave in a hillock in Reasi tehsil which contains a self made image of Lord Shiva. The Shiv Khori cave is situated about 4.5 miles from village Bhafrakh in Pouni Block. The hillock in which the cave lies is wooded and beautiful. The outer chamber of the cave is quite spacious and can accommodate a few dozens of people at a time. The inner chamber is smaller. The passage from the outer to the inner chamber is very low and narrow. Only a small portion, about half a Km. has been explored only superficially. Exploration of its full length may bring to light startling facts and may become a big draw like the mammoth Cave of America. On every Shivratri, a big fair is held here.

PINGLA MATA

Pingla Mata is situated at a hillock in village Pinger in Tehsil Ramnagar, about 6 Kms. from Ramnagar-Udhampur Road and has been gaining popularity since last few years. One has to trek all the six kilometres journey on foot from a place named Kaua on Ramnagar-Udhampur road. Though the journey is tough yet it does not tire the devotees because of scenic beauty throughout the journey. The area of lush green pine trees a feast to eyes, inspires the devotees to move on.

The cave of Pingla Mata seems a small hole but it has as much space inside as to accommodate at least 500 people at a time. A Sarai has also been constructed there for stay of yatries while electricity, drinking water facilities and medical sub-centre are also available at the shrine.

Many stories are associated with this holy shrine. As per popular legend, some shepherds of Pinger village used to come to this Jungle for grazing their cattle. A girl used to provide them food everyday but had warned them that this must not be disclosed to anyone. As such they never felt the necessity to take their meals at home. Their parents were worried as to why they do not take meals at home. One day the villagers followed their children and watched them in the jungle. They saw a girl serving food to the shepherds and then disappeared in a nearby cave.

According to another legend some hunters came to this jungle and saw a lion entering the cave. They collected some firewood and burnt it at the mouth of the cave. But within no time the hunters were astonished to see that the lion came out of the cave after piercing the big rock. Then they entered the cave and saw Mata there. Light can be seen coming from this narrow hole in the cave from where the lion had gone out.

There is also a natural stone made pot which is treated as similar pot known as "Dudhnu" in Dogri language and a big spoon on it to be known as "Kadshi". People believe that it is the same pot in which Mata used to cook food for the shepherd. Water falls from a rock in this pot which is served to yatries as " Charanamrit".

AGAR JITOO

Agar Jitoo, a few kilometre away from Katra town on Katra-Reasi road, is the birth place of revolutionary peasant, Bawa Jitoo. A bath in the water falling from the hill site is considered very beneficial for childless ladies and those suffering from various ailments. The Vaishnodevi Shrine Board has taken up a number of development works and constructed one Shopping Complex, a high school building, developed the entire complex and has put up a marble status of Bawa Jitoo.

GOURI KUND

Gouri Kund is one of the most highly sacred springs situated about two miles west of Sudhmahadev. Gouri or Parvati is believed to have meditated and offered penance here for 12 years to seek the favour of Lord Shiva. The sacred character of the region also derives from the fact that Devak stream considered in Puranas as the holiest of the holy rivers. During Sudhmahadev fair, the devotees first take bath at Gouri Kund.

PATNI TOP

Located at the highest point (6400 feet) on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway about 100 Kms. from Jammu, Patnitop is a beautiful and best developed tourist resort of Jammu region which is second to none in its natural charm, climate, pine forests and lush green forests. The occupancy of huts and Dak Bungalow accommodation is full in summer months. Patnitop Development Authority has drawn an ambitious plan for the development of Patnitop, Kud,Sudh-Mahadev and Mantalai. Under the plan a number of development projects have been taken up which include augumentation of water supply at Patnitop at a cost of Rs.80 lakhs, construction work of 12 Kms. Patnitop-Gouri-Kund road, to complete the tourist circuit Jammu-Katra-Vaishno Devi, Kud-Sanasar, Patnitop-Gourikund, Sudhmahadev and Mantalai extending upto Latti-Dhuna, Jakhed, Dudu and Basantgarh. The construction work of Mall road at Kud is also proposed to be taken up. Patnitop-Sanasar road is being upgraded and improved. Trekking route from Kud to Patnitop-Sanasar has already been completed.

SANASAR

Saucer shaped meadow of Sanasar, 20 Kms from Patnitop, bordering

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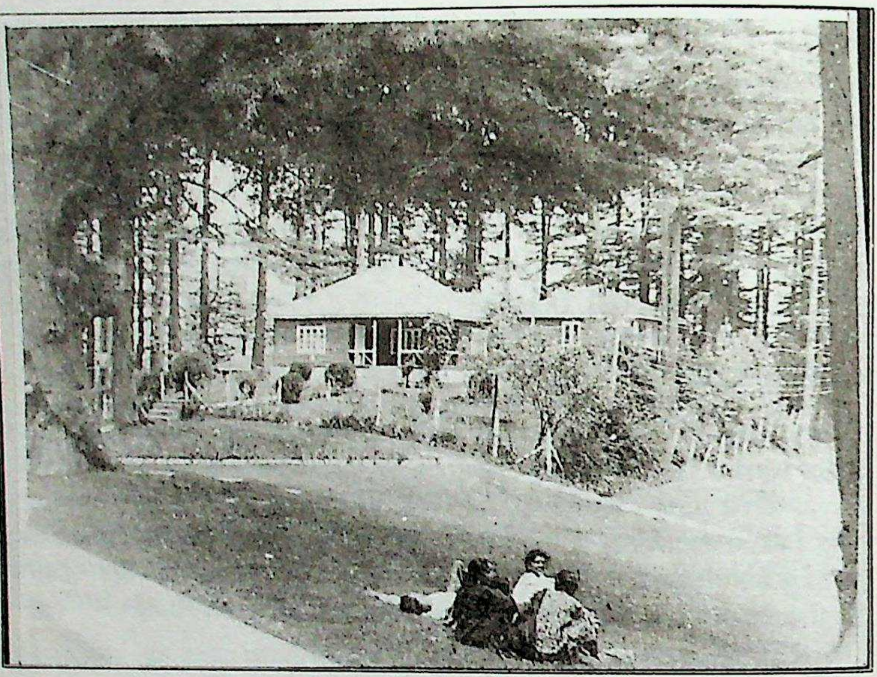


Patni Top

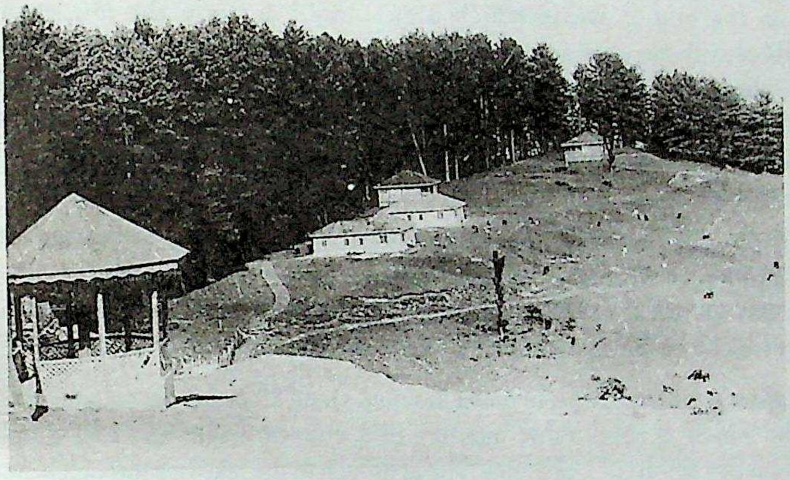
Doda and Udhampur districts is an alpine resort surrounded by gigantic conifers. Nine Hole Golf Course and hand gliding are the attractions. Sites for Holiday Homes, Mountaineering Institutes, Boarding Schools, Specialised hospitals, hotel, guest houses, restaurants, Post Offices, Police Stations. Tourist Information Centre have been earmarked. Massive tree plantation and development of lake there has also been taken up. The tourists enjoy mysteries of nature, unfolded in form of blue skyline in the day, sunlight filtering through graceful deodars, hushed silence, calm cool breeze and pine scented flowers strewn meadows.

Kud

This tourist spot is situated in the lap of lofty mountains and is surrounded by picturesque hills at an altitude of 5,500 ft. above sea level. A most developed hill station of Udhampur district Kud has been blessed with good soothing and pleaseant weather and has immense natural beauty.

MANSAR LAKE

The lake of Mansar is situated 40 Kms. in the South of Udhampur town and about 64 Kms. from Jammu. Besides, it is also linked with Samba



Sanasar

town by a 25 kilometres road. It is also connected with Dhar-Udhampur road at Battal by a seven kilometres motorable road.

According to a legend, the lake Mansar, dates back to the time of Mahabharta and was created by an arrowm shot by Arjuna, who in pursuit of the Lord of Nagaas (Sheshnag) went to the another world causing a hole by shooting another arrow at Saruinsar.

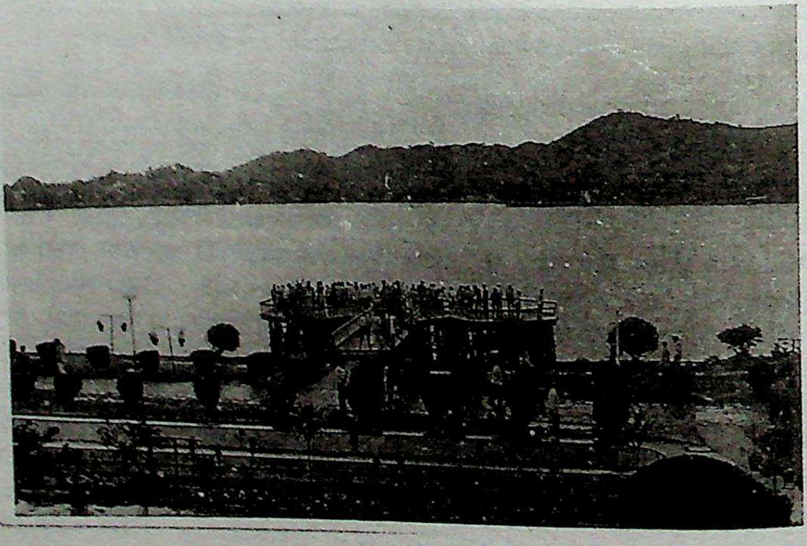
Another legend ascribes the origin of Mansar to an arrow shot by Babaruvahan, a son of Arjuna born of his union with Alupi-daughter of Sheshnag. It is said that during their wanderings in exile, in this area, Arjun saw Alupi whose bewitching beauty captivated his heart. This union led to the birth of Babbaruvahana, who inherited his father's qualities of archery coupled with bravery.However ,Arjuna forget all about Alupi, and also remained unaware of the birth of a son. After their victory in the battle, the Pandavas performed an Ashwamedh Yagna.The sacrificial horse was captured by Babbaruvahana near the site of Mansar.

When Arjuna heard of the capture of the horse he came and demanded release of the horse.Refusal to do so led to a battle between the father and the son. Arjuna was wounded with a arrow and fell down in a swoon. Alupi heard of this incident and apprised her son of her relationship with Arjuna. She also advised him to save the life of his own father by bringing a herb from the nether world, which alone could perform the miracle. So, Babbaruvahana shot an arrow at the site which created the lake, Mansar and the arrow came out at Saruinsar along with the herb. Thus Alupi saved the life of her husband and thus orginated the two extremely picturesque lakes. Today both the lakes offer excellent picnic spots with beautiful scenery all around.

Mansar and Saurinsar exits in an area which is known as "Cridle of the Dogra Race." According to some people, the word Duggar for Jammu and its well known derivative Dogra for its people are derived from the Sanskrit equivalent for these twin pits- DWIGARTA.

Mansar is a placid sheet of water, situated about 59 kms from Jammu city. The lake which is about three quarters of a mile in length and half a mile in width lies amidst of Udhampur. The approach to the lake lies through beautiful hill track.

The lake is surrounded by green forests of pine and mango. To enhance its



Mansar Lake

beauty, nature provides it with lotuses in profusion in summer and the lake looks spectacular with lotus flowers and swimming ducks. The sweet water of the lake is also used for drinking purposes by the people of neighbouring villages.

Two ancient temples of Umapati Mahadev and Narasimha as also a temple of Durga are situated in the vicinity of the Mansar lake. People take a holy dip in the water of the lake on festive occasions. Certain communities of Hindus perform the Mundan (first hair cut) ceremony of their male children here.It is also considered very auspicious and rewarding to circumambulate (Pari Karma)the lake to invoke the blessings of Nag-devta, whose shrine is to be found on the eastern bank of lake.The shrine comprises a big boulder on which are placed a number of iron chains perhaps representing small serpents waiting on the tutelary deity of the Sheshnag.The devotees worship here and make their offerings.

With all religious beliefs and heritage behind, Mansar Lake is also picking up its fame among tourists with all its flora and fauna.The lake has a matalled walk way all around with required illumination, and projected view decks to enjoy flickerings of seasonal birds,tortoise and fishes of various species.Though fishing is not allowed because of religious faith but one can invite them to visualize their dives under water.There is a wild life Sanctury housing jungle life like spotted deer, neelgai etc. besides other water birds like cranes and peacocks. One can also witness the traditional and typical distinct life style of Gujjars and Backarwals wearing ethnic costumes, living in open kullas around on hills of Mansar lake.

MONUMENTS

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BABORE TEMPLES

Babore is the one of the most impressive sites of archaeological importance in the State. Now a protected monument, there existed several temples of ancient time. Ruins of six temples in an area of one Km. have been found.

Situated about 50 Km. from Udhampur-Dhar road near Manwal village, temples are of the stone structures which have resemblance to one which the great Kashmir ruler Lalitaditya built at Wangat at the foot of Harmukh mountain in Kashmir in the 8th Century A.D.

The remains of Babore temples throw light as to how impressive art and architecture was prevalent even in that time. These ruins are the structures of great solidity and considerable beauty. Some of the stones, monolithic beams, pillars used in their construction are over a dozen feet long and their sculptures and carvings are splendid and impressive. Temples must be a part of a great pilgrimage of by gone ages which lost either importance or damaged in some calamity.

Ruins of only three have been identified, two of these are still used by the villagers of the neighbourhood for worship. These are temples of the Devi and Shiva. The Archaeological Department of Government of India is presently looking after these monuments and trying to bring these to their original grandeur.

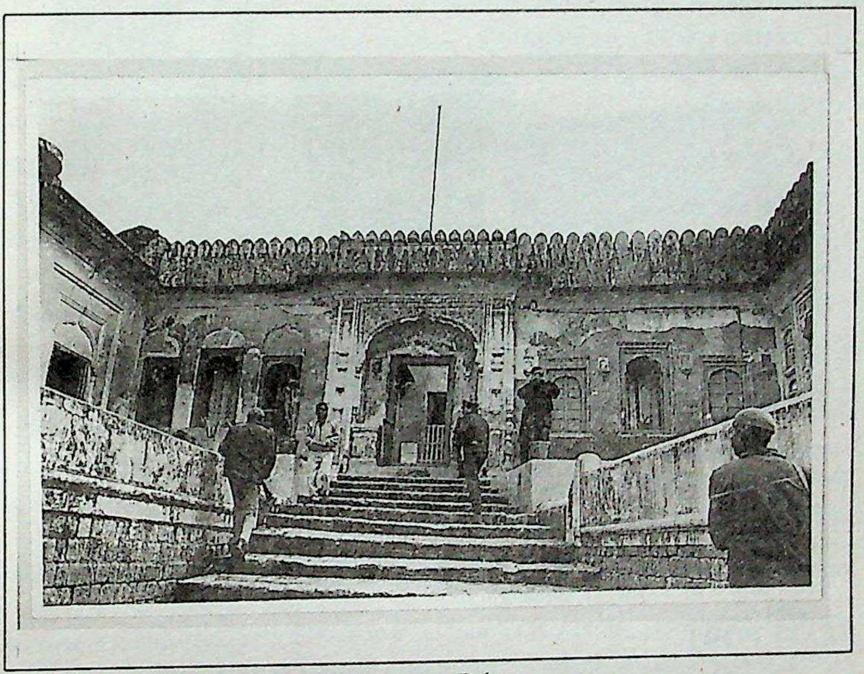
KRIMCHI TEMPLES

Another splendid ancient stone temple complex has been found in North - West of Udhampur town at village Krimchi amidst green hills. One of the hills is crowned with a Fort. A small stream is flowing below it. Three old temples stand in a row facing East. One of the temple is completely of rubble .There seem to have been two more parallel rows in the East facing the two temples in the outside, which makes the complex quadrangular pattern.

These temples resemble in shape and pattern of Baij Nath and Linga Raja temple at Bhuvneshwar in Orrisa. The main temple which is 50 feet high, is decorated with abstract designs and its porch bears a close resemblance to ancient stone temples of Kashmir Valley.Some beam like stone slabs used in construction, rest on massive pillers. The other temples stood on high plinths with spacious mandaps in front. Pieces of sculpture found in the debris have images of Ganesh,Shiva,Trimurti and Vishnu. It is said that temples could have been got built by the Kushan ruler when he was on his way to Kashmir.

SHEESH MAHAL OF RAMNAGAR

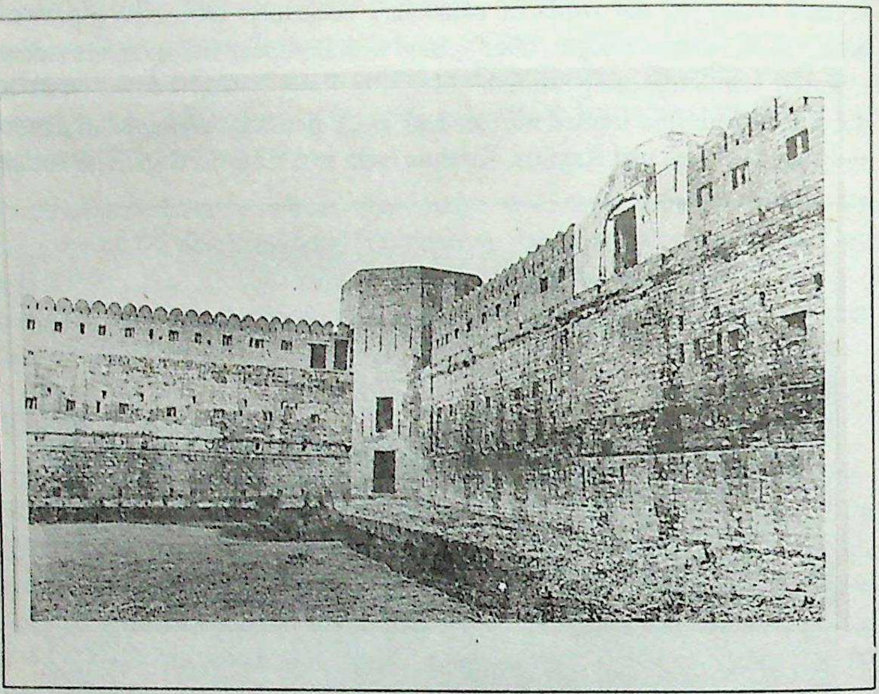
The famous Sheesh Mahal (Palace of mirrors) was built by Raja Ram Singh in 1885 in Ramnagar. The complex contains rooms of either flanks of central passage. To the right of the entrance are located Darbar Hall, Sheesh Mahal and Rang Mahal.The Darbar Hall is profusely painted with murals showing the influence of Pahari School. The theme includes scenes from Ramayana and Mahabharta, and battle scenes connected with Suchet Singh and Ram Singh. The opening of the Darbar Hall in the Sheesh Mahal a square chamber, the walls of which are decorated with fine glasswork, arranged in various designs, inter-spaced with European lithographs evidently inserted later.Adjoining Sheesh Mahal is Rang Mahal whose walls are decorated with fine framed mirrors and mural paintings arranged in pannels showing Nayikas and Raginis, Krishan leela and Court scenes. The colours used in the paintings are soft,the lines drawn delicate and composition imposing and vibrant with use of golden colour.This is also a protected monument.



Ramnagar Palace

RAMNAGAR FORT

Another historic building in the area just near the Sheesh Mahal is the Ramnagar Fort overlooking Mansa Devi Nallah which was built by Raja Suchet Singh. It is entered by a narrow bridge over the moat. The fort is square on plan with polygonal bastions rising to three storeys on four corners. The parapit wall having machicolation in three tiers all along is further strengthened by bastions in the middle of its back and inside are images of Ganesha, Durga and Hanumana. Around the central courtyard are magazines, cells and moat about five meter deep around the fort. It is also protected



Ramnagar Fort

monument taken over by the Archaeological Survery of India in 1972.

REASI FORT

It is yet another place of tourist interest in Udhampur district. It is claimed that this fort was either built or associated with the greatest warrior of that time, General Zorawar Singh. Built on the bank of river on a hillock, it has a commanding view of Reasi town. It was in a State of total neglect till it caught the attention of the then Governor in 1988 who decided to take up its beautification out of Vaishno Devi Shrine Board funds to make it a picnic spot for Vaishno Devi pilgrims who sometime had to wait for long for darshan at the cave. Since then the fort has acquired a new look with many people visiting it.

GHORA GALI

It is a famous historic place situated aside Gool Bazar. Stone carved horses with their riders, mini ponds built of carved stones and many more works of sculptures are the main attractions of this venue. Similar monuments are found at various places around Gool. It is said that these monuments belong to Mahabharta age and were built by Pandvs during their exile period.

FLORA AND FAUNA

The trees of Deodar, Kail, Fir and Pine are existing in higher altitude while in lower slopes and plain areas the trees of Bamboos, Kher, Tali, Tunu and Thorny bushes are in abundance. Among fruit trees mango, appricot, apple, guava, walnut and citrus trees exist over a large area of the district. The wild animals found include leopard, panther, pig, fox, wild goat and wild cow.

The pet animals include cow, bull, buffalo, goat, sheep, horse,. camel, cock,hens duck and birds like parrot, dove, sparrow and peacock also in the district.

TREKKING ROUTES

PATNITOP-MANTALAI

Patnitop at a height of 7000 ft. approximately, enveloped by dense forests rich in flora and fauna is a trekker's paradise. It's verdant meadow lands, pine scented forests trails, magnificient highlands and the tree whispering in a quite harmony provides enchanting beauty.It offers delightful walks through pine shades and flowered paths and the view from every side of resort is spectcular. The resort is well -geared to meet the demands of onward going trekkers. Patnitop is situated on Jammu -Srinagar National Highway.From Patnitop gradual trail for about 8kms. brings you to charming natural site of Sudhmahadev well known for its archaeological importance and great pilgrimage centre. The place is connected with many Shiva legends. 'Gouri Kund' is also worth seeing place with a small lake. It is an enjoyable trek of 10-12 km. from Patnitop. About 8 Km. further gradual trek steep in beginning brings you another enchanting hilly resort Mantalai

MANTALAI-LATTI

Mantalai to Latti is a gradual trek of 13 Km. through pine scented forests. The trekkers enjoy bracing climate wholesome delicious water of gushing spring and magnificent natural scenery.

LATTI-KIRCHI/DUDO

Latti to Kirshi/Dudo is a trek of 18 Km. through Deodar forests having springs and small rivers in entire trek. One can enjoy splended and unspoiled scenery. 13 Kms long trek passes through small apple orchards takes you to village Jakhed- a wide grassy mountain slope. Tawi river flows through Jakhed and is full of different species of fishes.

KIRCHI/DUDO-NAKA SEOJ DHAR

Kirchi/Dudo to Naka Seoj Dhar is an enjoyable trek of 19 Kms.The trek is gradual for first 10 Kms and ascend for another 6 Kms. From Naka one treks to Kailash Kund (13067 fts.) the source of river Neeru and one Km, away from Kailash Kund is Kali Kund (12145 fts.) the source of river Tawi. Further two Kms. away from Kali Kund is Surni Kund (12349 fts) the source of river Ujh. Plenty of brown trout fishes are available in Neeru. The rocks available in Naka Seoj are Granites. The age of these rocks are 450 million years. From Naka the trail also goes to Sarthal.

PATNITOP-SANASAR

The saucer shaped meadow of Sanasar adjoining Patnitop is a alpine resort surrounded by gigantic conifers. From Patnitop to Sanasar is a five hours trek through dense forests. The trekkers enjoy mysteries of nature, unfolded in form of blue skyline in day, sunlight filtering through graceful deodars, hushed silence, calm cool breeze and pine scented flower strewn meadows.

SANASAR-SURINKUND

Sanasar to Surinkund is a trek of five hours through lush green forests via Sankhpal peak. Sankhpal gives very good panoramic view. From Sankhapal the trek descends to Surin Kund.

SURINKUND-GANDRI

The trek is all descend and passes through Deodar and Kail trees takes about five hours to reach Gandri. Trekkers can also take to the trail on pony back along meandering pathways, through meadow lands abloom with wild flowers into forests of fragranting pine.

GANDRI-KANGA

It is a decent trek and at places becomes gradual through Kail and Fur forests. Kanga is situated at the height of 4000 fts. and takes four hours from Gandhri.

LADDEN-LANDHAR

It is a six days trek passes through attractive spots of Patnitop, Sudhmahadev, Mantalai and Sidhaltha. It is a trek where there is something of interest for so many tests besides being a charming outdoor camping amid lush green forests of Deodar, Kali and Fur.

PAKHALAI-CHART

It is a four hours trek through green meadows steep in the beginning than gradual upto Charat.

CHARAT-MANTALAI

It is a four hours trek upto Sidhaltha than going down to Bani-Sang. Bani-Sang to Mantalai is gradual trek but steep at some places.

MANTALAI-PATNITOP

It is a seven hours early morning trek through dense pine and deodar forests. After about 5 Kms. you reach Sudhmahadev, important pilgrimage centre. It is the only place in J&K with ancient writing on an Iron pillar. Magnificent natural scenery has great attraction for adventure. After going up steeply from Sudhmahadev, the trek becomes gradual upto Patnitop.

PATNITOP-SANASAR

It is a gradual four hours trek through forests. Trekkers enjoy open panoramic view and scenery of mountains around. Landhar has a good camping site.

SANASAR- LANDHAR

It is an enjoyable trek of five hours through dense forests.

Katra to Darbar Mata Vaishno Devi Ji Trek

Trek is quite engrossing and enveigling and quite fascinating. It is quite manifest from the visiting large number of over 40 lakh pilgrims every year from all over the country and abroad.

Bal Ganga is the first stage enroute the cave. It is about a kilometer from Katra. Here the pilgrims take a purifying dip in the refreshing cool water of the mountain stream.

The up-ward hike begins from here. The first place one comes to is the Charan Padika at a height of 3378 feet and is known after the Sandals of the goddess. Then comes one of the important spots known as Ad-Kanwari which is about 7 kilometers from Katra. It is situated at a height of 4784 feet and is main halting place between Katra and Cave. There is a picturesque temple where is a small opening or hole in the rocks through which the pilgrims pass. It is popularly known as GARB-YONI.

From Ad-Kanwari there is steep climb to Hathi-Matha at a height of 6200 feet about sea level. It is followed by Sanji Chhat the highest point on the track at a hieht of 7215 feet above sea level.

There is a gradual descent nearly 3 kilometers up to Darbar. On return the pilgrims after having Darshan of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji pay visit to the temple of Bhairov.

RANSU-SHIV KHORI TREK

Khori means gupha or cave. Shiv Khori, therfore, means Shivas cave. It lies at about 16 killometers from Pouni, which is a village on Reasi-Rajouri road. From Reasi to Ransu a motorable road is followed by a trek of 6 km length to reach Shiv Khori.

HOT SPRING (TATAPANI) IN GOOL SANGALDAN TREK

There are two hot water springs in Gool Gulabgarh area at Sangaldan. A bath in their water is stated to be useful for curing skin diseases. The springs emerge out at the foot of a beautiful hill, about 6 kilometers from Sangaldan.

Besides all these trekking routes in Jammu region, ther are much more to discover. A trek can be rigorous enough to test the strongest endurance. The trekking experiences are varied and memorable for trekkers and adventure lovers.

TOURIST HUT AT CHUL ANA (PANCHARI)

A forest-cum-tourist hut constructed before 1935 at village Chulana, 308 kms from Udhampur on Udhmapur-Panchari road only one km. away from Panchari on left side is really a worth seeing place. The hut has been constructed in the heart of thickly populated Deodar trees which gives an engrossing and enveigling scenery to this whole area. The hut has been constructed on the hill top surrounded by the thousands of Deodar trees-the only Deodar Jungle in Panchari area.

This picnic spot is unique in character in this area as the other parts of this Panchari Block consist of no doubt characters based on its diversified vegetation mainly consisting of chir trees including fruit plants of peach, Arpricot and Walnuts.

The uniqueness of this picturesque spot needs to be highlighted with a view to attract aspiring tourists to appreciate this spot and engender an inspirational commotion in them as the spot seems to be specially blended by the nature itself differentiating it from the rest of the area. Normally, the vegetation is common in a particular area but here the nature has really played a beautiful part in converging tall deodar trees to a thick jungle which might have attracted the then rulers to exploit such a marvellous spot in this remote area. The selection of this spot as back as 1935 itself is a commendation to this area.

The "visitregister" showing the visits of various prominent forester and other officers right from 1935 which has been preserved in the hut reflect the importance of this spot.

SPORTS

During 1996-97 an amount of Rs.2.60 lakh was spent to develop 9 play grounds of schools and Rs.4.73 lakh was incurred to involve 7096 Boys/Girls students in various sport activities while 20 general line teachers were trained through refresher courses of 10-Day duration in games and sports for the introduction of games and sports in middle schools through these teachers in the district.

Besides, 8500 students were involved in Inter-Murals competitions held at Institutional level.

During 1997-98 an amount of Rs. 5 lakh had been proposed to involve about 8,000 boys/girls students in various activities to be organised in order to promote the cult of sports and games. Besides, training of 30 general line teachers on the basis of short term refresher courses in games ans sports.

Rupees 2.50 lakh had been proposed for the development 8 play fields of the schools during 1997-98.

COMPERATIVE STATEMENT OF YEAR WISE EXPENDITURE (IN LAKH)

Sector	Expdt. 92-93	Expdt. 93-94	Expdt. 94-95	Expdt. 95-96	Outlay 96-97	Expdt. 96-97	Expdt. 92-97
Agriculture & Allied Service	323.39	407.96	501.35	592.50	613.06	621.53	2446.73
Rural Dev.	191.18	189.00	238.31	400.68	555.69	321.87	1341.04
Industries	45.25	59.43	69.76	80.22	86.80	96.09	350.75
Communication.	142.55	225.68	243.24	293.00	343.14	398.56	1303.03
Energy	57.00	56.00	125.00	179.00	195.00	206.98	623.98
Social & Gen.Services	800.64	1114.32	1084.04	1384.31	1683.40	1677.37	6060.68
Others	-	2.67	3.35	3.99	3.23	3.40	13.41
Total:-	**1560.01**	**2055.06**	**2265.05**	**2933.70**	**3480.32**	**3325.80**	**12139.62**

Who's Who

Telephone Nos.

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Deputy Commissioner		70212	70222
DIG,Doda-Udhampur Range HQ. Batote.		4353	4363
S.P.		70210	70202
Superintending Engineer,PHE		70441	-
Superintending Engineer,PWD		70729	70440
Superintending Engineer,Electric		70528	-

Principal,Govt.Degree College	70239	70289
Principal,Govt.Women College	71681	
Chief Agriculture Officer	70649	71731
Chief Horticulture Officer	70595	70595
Chief Animal Husbandry Officer	70414	70365
Chief Education Officer	32195	
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Dy.Chief EngineerRailways	70223	
Dy.Director,Sericulture	71829	
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Coordinator Nehru Yuva Kendra	70576	
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Distt.Employment Officer	70234	71777
Field Publicity Officer,Government of India	70797	
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Distt. & Session Judge, Udhampur	70259	
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Distt.Sports & Youth Welfare Officer	70573	
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SDM Bhawan	0191-8225	
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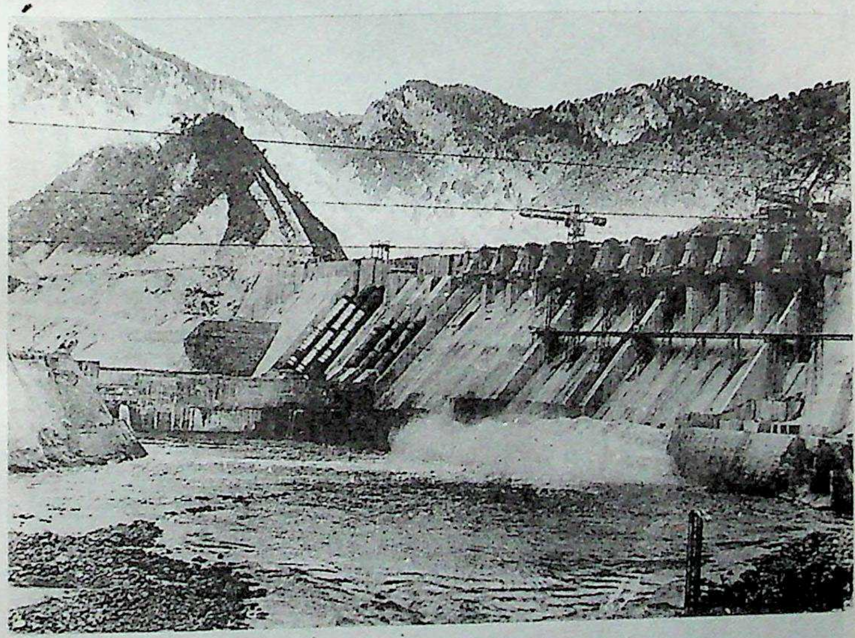
Mr.Ravi Kumar Malguria President Chamber of Commerce	70553	

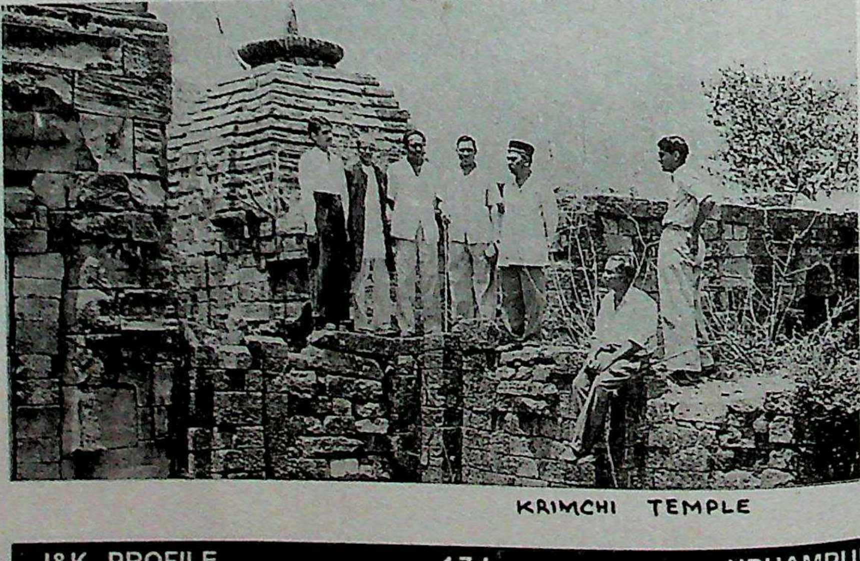
EDITORS

Editor Weekly Truthline	71146
Editor Pomander	70941

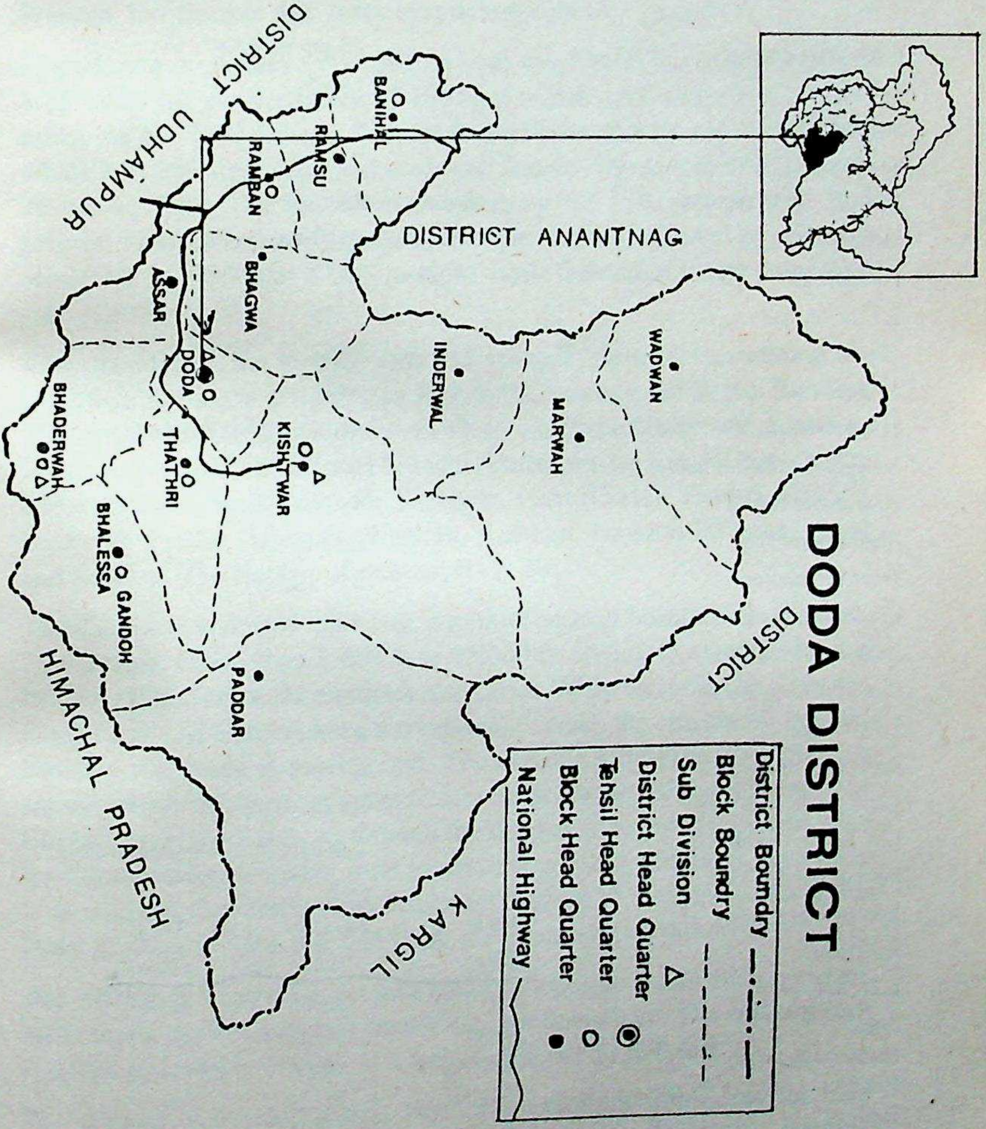


SALAL HYDEL PROJECT

Inner View of Shri Vaishno Devi Shrine



KRIMCHI TEMPLE



DODA DISTRICT

DISTRICT UDHAMPUR
DISTRICT ANANTNAG
DODA DISTRICT
HIMACHAL PRADESH
KARGIL
BANIHAL
RAMSU
RAMBAN
BHAGWA
ASSAR
DODA
BHADERWAH
THATHRI
KISHTWAR
INDERWAL
MARWAH
WADWAN
BHALESSA
GANDOH
PADDAR
District Boundry
Block Boundry
Sub Division
District Head Quarter
Tehsil Head Quarter
Block Head Quarter
National Highway

DODA DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

Area	11,691 Sq. Kms
Forest Area	2.19 Hect.
Population (1981 census)	4.25 Lakh
(1991 Est.)	5.25 lakh
Population Density	45 per sq. kms.
Literacy	18.5 %
Sub-divisions	4
Tehsils	7
Blocks	14
Villages	655 (three uninhabited)
Panchayats	262
Ed. Institutions	1,493
Health institutions	256
Villages Electrified (3/97)	584
Hamlets/Bastis electrified (3/97)	442 (including hamlets)
Villages provided drinking water (3/95)	652 (3/97)
Area under H Y V	59,000 Hects.
Sheep population	5.32 lakhs
Goat population	2.04 lakhs
Live-stock population (1992 Spl.Census)	4.52 lakhs
Bank branches(3/95)	53
Principal Crop/Staple Food	Rice/ Maize
Post Offices	14
Assembly Segments	6
Annual Plan 1997-98	43.68 crores
Lok Sabha Constituency	Part of Kathua-Udhampur-Doda
Polling booths	455

Electorate(1998)	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Kishtwar	28809	26425	55234
Inderwal	28816	23368	52184
Doda	29084	25873	54957
Bhaderwah	38592	35905	74497
Ramban	28419	24129	74497
Banihal	26664	21406	48070
Total	**180384**	**157106**	**337490**

Carved out of the erstwhile Udhampur district in 1948, Doda district is the third largest in terms of area after Leh and Kargil. Lying in the outer Himalayan range in J&K State, the district falls between 32 degree -53' and 34 degree-21' north latitude and 75 degree-1'and 76 degree-47' east longitude.On its north is Anantnag district of Kashmir, while south-west and south are bordered by the districts of Udhampur, Kathua and Chamba area of Himachal Pradesh. On the east and south-east is Leh district.

Spread over in an area of 11,691 sq.kms. the district has a population of 5.25 lakhs (as per estimates of 1991),of which 4.97 lakhs live in rural areas. As per 1981 census, the population of the district was 4,25,262 of which 2,23,362 were male and while rest female. The density of population 36 per sq. kms. The literacy percentage as per 1981 census was 18.5 percent. The population of scheduled tribes according to special enumeration conducted in 1992 was 67,400 persons while Scheduled Caste population was 37000.

Administratively, the district with 655 villages, three of these being un-inhabited, has been divided into four Sub-Divisions viz Doda, Ramban, Bhaderwah and Kishtwar.It has seven tehsils viz Doda, Bhaderwah, Kishtwar, Ramban, Banihal,Thathri and Gandoh.There are 14 Rural Development Blocks comprising Bhaderwah, Kishtwar, Ghat (Doda), Thathri, Gandoh, Inderwal, Padder, Marwah, Warwan, Ramban, Ramsoo Bhagwa, Assar and Banihal. The number of panchayats is 262.

The district is endowed with vast wealth of natural beauty and resources. The altitude varies from 8,000 ft to 15,000 ft. Owing to varying physical features of the district, the climate is also varied. While the areas like Kishtwar, Bhaderwah and Banihal have a temperate climate, the climate of area like Ramban and Doda is sub-tropical. The average rainfall is 35 inches per annum which is lowest as compared to other district of the division. The Chenab, main river flowing through the district, is commercially very vital for transportation of timber from forests and power genereation. According to an estimate, the river has hydel potential of about 15,000 MWs. Prestigious hydel projects of Salal and Dul Hasti are generating on this river.

The district is known for its rich mineral deposits. Lead, mica, gypsum, manganese, marble, graphite copper etc. are found here. The costliest blue sapphire is found in Paddar, at a height of about 15,000 feet.

The district is pre-dominantly rural and has agricultural and pastoral economy. Being completely drought prone, it has been declared as Drought

Prone Area by the Government. It is highly vulnerable to the vagaries of the nature and so is the entire rural population.

The district has good potential for tourism including pilgrim and adventure tourism owing to its captivating scenic splendour, pilgrim centres and lofty mountain peaks.

Monuments of archeological importance in the district include a fort at Bhaderwah, Bhandharkot fort in Kishtwar and Ghajpat Qila at Ramban.

The district is known,not only for its rich cultural heritage and ethical values but, also popular for its age-old traditions of secularism and the spirit of tolerance, which have been since times immemorial, binding the people together. The peaceful co-existence in this vast district has been possible only because of the observance in letter and spirit of these traditions which have since long been guiding the very destinies of the people professing varied faiths. The population comprises different communities and complete communal amity is being maintained. The majority of population though having different religions belong to the same class and colour, so much so, that most of the families are pursuing the vedic dharma while the others are the followers of Islam. The people inhabiting this vast land may differ from each other in a number of ways but they have an essential unity viz their faith in secular way of life.

The people are also credited to have unity in diversity. For example, besides regional languages, there are about one dozen languages being spoken in different areas. These are Kashmiri, Dogri, Bhaderwahi, Kishtwari, Siraji, Pogli, Khashali, Gojri, Paddri and Punjabi etc.

According to Dr.G.A.Fierson the word "Pahari" applies to the groups of languages spoken in the sub-himalayan hills extending from Bhaderwah to the eastern parts of the Nepal. The Bhaderwah group includes three dialects, viz Bhaderwahi,Bhalesvi and Padri. Bhaderwahi language is abundantly rich in words, phrases and idioms.

The secular outlook of the people therefore is due to the fact that population is mixed one and emotionaly integrated. Both the Hindus and Muslims are in over whelming majority whereas other communities like Sikhs, Budhists and Christians also reside but in small numbers.

HISTORY

The district has a rich history. The district derived its name from its district headquarters Doda. It is said that one of the ancient Rajas of Kishtwar whose dominion extended beyond Doda persuaded one utensil maker Deeda, a migrant from Multan (now in Pakistan), to settle permanently in this territory and set up an utensil factory there. Deeda is said to have settled in a village which later on came to be known after him. With the passage of time the name Deeda has changed into Doda, the present name of the town.

The entire area of district Doda including Allaqa Dengbatal (Tehsil Mahore) was initially divided into two independent States of Kishtwar and Bhaderwah. The erstwhile Kishtwar State had been divided into eleven parganas of proper Kishtwar, Nagseni, Padder, Marwah, Warwan, Dachhan, Koutwara, Saroor Sarthal, Zanskar, Bawanjwah and Doda-Siraj-Banihal.In other words,Kishtwar State consisted of all areas of the present district Doda including Deng Battal (Tehsil Mahore of Udhampur district) and Zanaskar of Kargil and excluding present Bhaderwah, Bhalessa, Thathri Teshils, Marmat Galihan, Ruggi valley, Assar, Batote areas of Doda and Ramban Tehsils. The history of Kishtwar dates back to 200 B.C. when the revered Buddhist scholar Nagsena was invited to a discussion by king Mender in his palace at Sakla. In the discussions Nagsena replied all the questions of the king who then embraced Buddhism and became king Milinda. Nagsena recorded the discussion in "Millinda Panha" a Pali Treatise on the fundamental principles of Buddhist philosophy.

Kahan Palor Kahan Sen was the first Raja of Kishtwar who belonged to the royal dynasty of Vikramaditya of Ujjain. He had established his rule much earlier than 1087-88 A.D. He was succeeded by Raja Gandarb Sen and subsequently by 45 others in line of succession. The territory of Kishtwar was conquered by Raja Gulab Singh in 1821 A.D. when Raja Mohd Teg Singh surrendered at Doda without any resistance.

Kishtwar was annexed to Jammu kingdom in 1821 A.D. but Gulab Singh did not visit Kishtwar. He appointed Mian Chand Singh as Amil (Administrator) of Kishtwar. One Lak Shan was appointed as kardar under Chain Singh (Neeli Akhon-wala). Chain Singh was replaced by Mehta Basti Ram as administrator of Kishtwar. Raja Gulam Singh appointed Zorawar Singh as Governor of Kishtwar in June 1823 who remained in power upto 1841. Marwah was annexed to Kishtwar during Zorawar Singh's first Ladakh expedition (1833-34). From 1834-1841 Zorawar Singh led four expeditions to Ladakh. When Zorawar was busy in crushing rebellion in Zanskar, Ratnu the Palsara or Chief Official of Chamba Raja in Paddar, stirred up the people and seized the Dogra soldiers kept at Chaattargarh

Fort in Paddar. In the spring of 1836 Zorawar Singh personally commanded a large force of about 3,000 men to avenge the insult. Chattargarh's name was changed to Gulabgarh. When Zorawar Singh conquered Paddar, Ratnu fled away to Chamba where from he was sent to Jammu as a prisoner. During the fourth invasion of Ladakh Zorawar Singh was killed on December 12,1841 by a Tibetan soldier in the battle of Doyo.

On the death of General Zorawar Singh, Main Jabbar Singh was sent as Governor of Kishtwar in 1842 A.D. In 1846 A.D. the whole of Jammu and Kashmir situated in the eastward of the river Indus and westward of the river Ravi including Chamba and excluding Lahul was handed over to Maharaja Gulab Singh. Thus the province of Kishtwar also formed part of the J&K State. Sometime during 1875 A.D. the J&K State was divided into two division called provinces and the status of Kishtwar got reduced to a district with Ramban as its Tehsil. Lala Sarb Dayal is considered as the last Governor of Kishtwar province. Kishtwar remained as a district headquarter upto 1909 A.D. and was then placed under Udhampur Wazarat. District Doda was ultimately carved out in 1948 A.D. with its headquarters in the winter capital of erstwhile Kishtwar state.

Kishtwar state was meant for the missionary zeal of Syed Shah Farid-ud-Din, the renowned saint of Baghdad. The Islamic faith entered the region of Kishtwar as a spiritual and moral force. Hazrat Shah Farid-ud-Din came over to Kishtwar in 1664 A.D. when Raja Jai Singh ruled the state. Shah Sahib turned Kishtwar into Bagdad Sani (Second).

The principality of Bhaderwah was distributed into 15 tharas or administrative units. The total area of Bhaderwah Jagir (including Bhalessa etc.) was 533 sq.miles which after amalgamation with Udhampur district in 1931 was reduced to 213 sq. miles only. The earliest mention of the place is traced from Rajatarangni around (1112-28 A.D), where the place has been named as Bhadravakash i.e. good resting place. According to the genealogical role of the Rajas of Billawar, the State of Bhaderwah was found about fifteenth century by a Scion of Balauria family, but lateron, came under the control of Chamba. Thus it may be presumed that the State was established any time around 12th century, but the events of the place, right upto the close of 16th century are not very clear.

Nag Pal (IInd) was the son of Maha Pal who, like his father was a great devotee of Basak Nag. He is said to have ruled for one hundred years. Mela Patt is celebrated at Bhaderwah in honour of Nag Pal's spiritual victory over Emperor Akbar. After Nagpal (IInd) the political conditions of

Bhaderwah principality were very uncertain upto the 17th century. Nag Pal is said to have died bout 1620 A.D. Nag Pal (IInd) was succeeded by Bhakhat Pal(1620-34 A.D) and many others. Bhaderwah became a part of Chamba State during the reign of Charat Singh, (1821-1844 A.D). His brother Zorawar Singh was appointed its Administrative Governor. Being a man of fine tastes Zorawar Singh preferred to stay at Chamba and administration of Bhaderwah was conducted by a succession of Subedars who could not win over the local inhabitants. Zorawar Singh was designated as Titular Raja of Bhaderwah in 1833 A.D. and was termed as Chhota Raja.

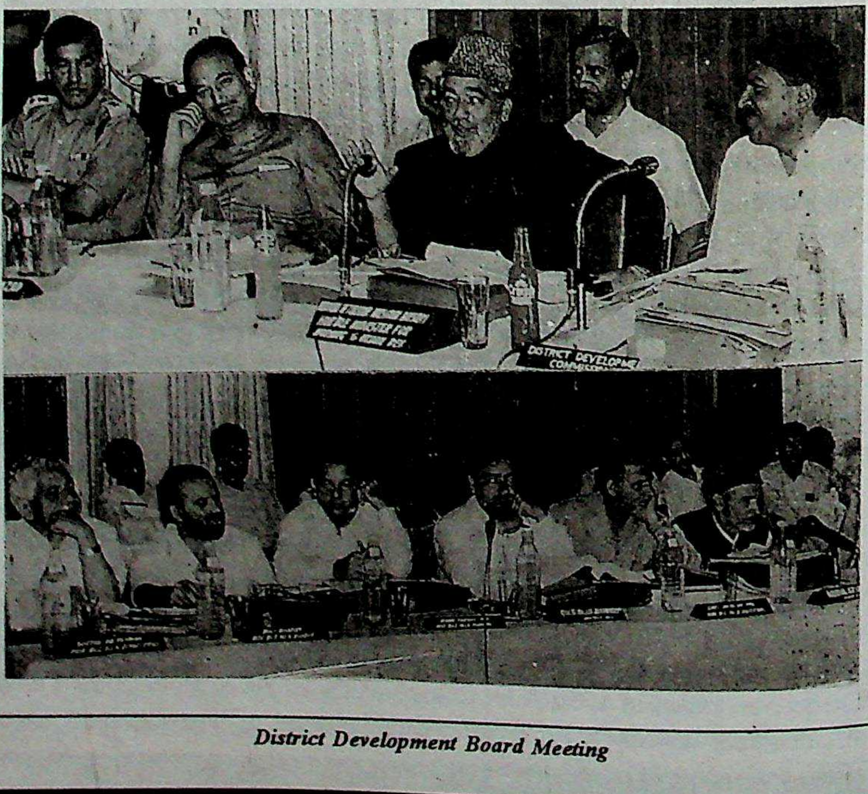
In 1844 A.D. Sri Singh was seated on the Gaddi of Chamba. Due to family dispute, Zorawar Singh fled to Bhaderwah and then to Jammu where he tried to gain the support of Jammu and rebel elements of Bhaderwah,but he could not succeed till his death.Zorawar Singh's son, Prakaram Singh was made Raja of Bhaderwah in 1845 A.D. But owing to Anglo-Sikh War of 1845, Sikh dominion of the Hill States became very weak and Gulab Singh availed this opportunity to annex Bhaderwah with his territory. The same year when Prakaram Singh was its Raja, Bhaderwah passed on to Maharaja Gulab Singh in 1846 A.D.During Gulab Singh's time Bhaderwah remained a military administered area,administered by a Special Administrative Officer and it was only in the later year of Ranbir Singh's rule that Bhaderwah was bestowed as Jagir to Amar Singh.Bhaderwah in Ranbir Singh's time remained as private Jagir. Ranbir Singh appointed Lhab Joo as Kardar (Tehsildar) of Bhaderwah in 1859 A.D.Bhaderwah remained a Jagir of Raja Sir Amar Singh during 1978-81 A.D. On November 10,1886, as per report of Tehsildar Bhaderwah, the Jagir of Bhaderwah was handed over to the representatives of Raja Amar Singh by Tehsildar Bhaderwah and it remained his personal domain with all powers for its administration, development and revenue collection till his death in 1911 A.D. Thus for almost all practical purposes Amar Singh was ruler of Bhaderwah between 1886 and 1911. When Amar Singh passed away in 1911 A.D Maharaja Pratap Singh issued an order regarding the Jagir and a committee of management was constituted for the estate of Hari Singh for the disposal of civil and criminal matters. Pratap Singh passed away in 1925. He had no issue and therefore Amar Singh's son Hari Singh occupied the throne of J&K State. The status of the Jagir was changed. Its name as private Jagir was changed to Private Domain and incharge jagir was changed to Director private Domains. On the recommendations of Private Domain Assimilation Committee, the status of Bhaderwah ended in 1930 A.D. Consequently Bhaderwah became a tehsil of Udhampur district in 1931. After establishment of District Headquarter

Doda, Bhaderwah was made a tehsil of this district.

Consequent upon reorganization of districts and tehsils, Naibat Thathri and Niabat Bhalessa of Bhaderwah tehsil also became full fledged tehsils in 1981.

DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

The experiment of District Level planning and Single Line Administration was launched by Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah in Doda in 1975. The development process in the district since then has undergone a sea change in almost all socio-economic sectors. Agriculture, Horticulture, Rural Development, Roads and Bridges, Water Supply, Power, Health and Education were accorded special emphasis. The creation of economic assets in the rural areas is receiving priority in the Plan for alround development of the district.



District Development Board Meeting

District Plan 1997-98

(Rs.in lakhs)

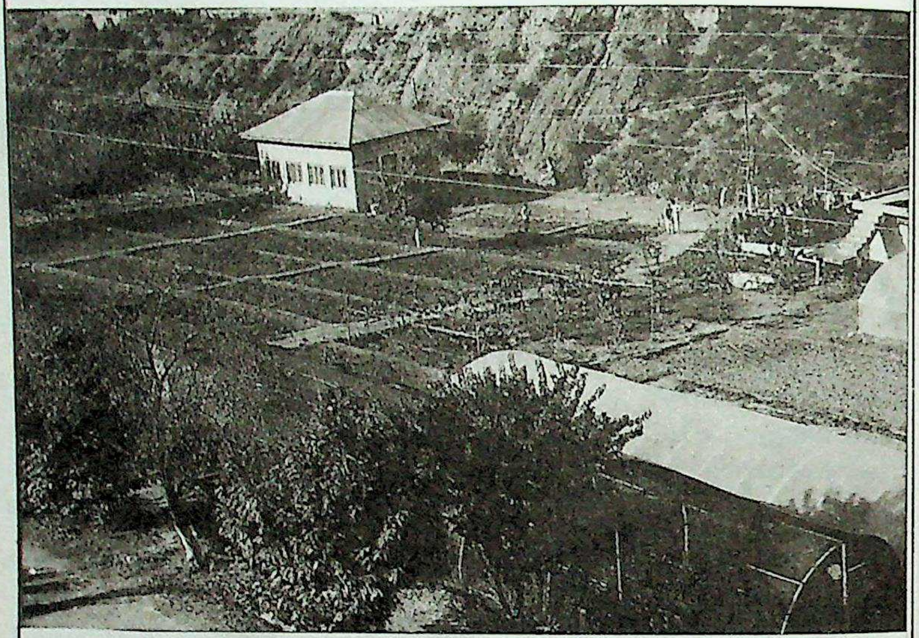
S.No.	Sector	Outlay	Expenditure (Provisional)
1.	Agriculture & Allied Services	840.47	767.36
2.	Rural Development	705.87	2001.07
3.	Industries	93.46	92.34
4.	Communication	686.42	664.04
5.	Energy	180.00	175.00
6.	Social & Gen.Services	1856.32	1716.76
7.	Others	6.30	13.74
	Total:	**4368.84**	**5430.31**

The 1997-98 plan outlay of the district was Rs.43.68 crores as compared to Rs.2 crores in 1977-78 registering 22 time increase. In addition, an amount of over Rs.22 crores had been provided to the distict as Central share for various Centally sponsored programmes like J.R.Y., E.A.S., D.P.A.P., I.R.D.P. and N.W.D.P etc. Thus the total outlay for development schemes 1997-98 came to nearly Rs.66 crores which was about Rs.10 crores more than 1997-98 outlay of Rs.56 crores. During 1996-97 Rs.40.03 crores were spent against released amount of Rs.44.04 crores which came to 95 % of the available amount.

Out of the 1997-98 plan an amount of Rs.840.47 lakhs had to spent on Agriculture and alike activities, Rs.507.87 lakhs on Rural Development and Rural Expansion programme, Rs.1856.32 lakhs on Social and General Services, Rs.686.42 lakhs on communication, Rs.180 lakhs on energy and Rs.93.46 lakhs on Industries and allied departments.

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is the main occupation of the people with 80 per cent of population dependent on it. Maize, wheat,paddy and pulses are the important crops grown in the district. Rice is the staple diet of the people.



Indo-Italian Agriculture Farm (Ramban)

Other products of economic potentialities are Rajmash, honey, ghee, anardhana, banafsha, zeera, guchhi, walnuts etc.which are found in abundance. Kishtwar is famous for its quality saffron, the cultivation of which is providing additional source of income to the people. The saffron of Kishtwar is considered to be more superior than the saffron produced in Pampore, Kashmir. It has found a word of appreciation in "Tuzk-i-Jahangiri", a book written by Emperor Jahangir himself.

The total area according to village record is 4.11 lakh hectares, of which 2.19 lakh hectare is under forests and 1.33 lakh hectares not available for cultivation. Thus only 83000 hectares of land are available for cultivation in this vast district, of which 10342 hectares are irrigated.During 1996-97,59,000 hectares of land were covered under high yielding varieties of kharief and rabi crops. For this purpose 2464 quintals of high yielding variety seeds and 2648 tonnes of chemical fertilizers were provided to the farmers. Under Agriculture Development Programme 400 Bee-hives and 400 Bee-colonies were distributed to the farmers. Over Rs. 194 lakhs were spent for agricultural activiteis during 1996-97.

For 1997-98 Rs.266 lakh had been earmarked for this sector. An area of

20000 hectares was brought under high yielding crops during 1997 kharief season.

Agrarian Reforms Work under Section 4 of the J&K Agrarian Reforms Act 1976 has been completed in 613 out of 655 villages while work under Section 8 of the Act has been completed in 439 villages. In all 19008 mutations have been attested under Section 4 and rights of 83251 ex-owners for feited over as many as 323648 kanals of land. The number of prospective owners who will be provided ownership rights over this land under Sec.8 is 77317. Of them 52,543 prospective owners have been conferred ownership rights to over 304800 kanals of land by attesting 45086 mutations. Under Sec.7, 2214 ex-owners resumed ownership rights over 3768 kanals of land.For this purpose 2509 mutations have been attested so far.

HORTICULTURE

By March 1997 17644 hectares of land was brought under horticulture. Walnut is the main fruit produced followed by apple. Over 9400 hectares of orchard land is presently under walnut while as 8675 hectares are under apple and other fresh fruits. The other fruits produced include apricot, mangoes, oranges, almonds, olive etc. 16665 metric tonnes of various fruits were produced during 1996-97 while in 1997-98 the production was expected to reach 17,000 metric tonnes. During the 8th Five Year Plan 5800 hectares of land was brought under orchards in a phased manner. During 1996-97 an amount of Rs.89.51 lakh was spent on the development of horticulture. An area of 862 hectares were brought under horticulture.

The Horticulture Department has also established fruit preservation and utilization centre at Bhaderwah with the aim for providing facilities for fruit and vegetables, besides, imparting practical training to the house wives and other interested persons. The unit also under takes mobile demonstration throughout the district.

During the year 1996-97 over Rs.two lakhs were spent and 230 metric tonnes of fruit and vegetables have been prepared, besides, imparting training to 50 ladies. During the year 1997-98 Rs.2.33 lakhs had been earmarked.

During 1997-98, 710 hectares were being brought under horticulture in the district for which Rs.94.18 lakhs were spent.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Under J.R.Y and E.A.S. over 2689 works were completed and record number of 29.27 lakh mandays work generated. Of this 5 lakh mandays work were generated only for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during 1996-97.

Under J.R.Y Rs.1.76 crores were spent during 1996-97 on completion of 735 works. Under Indira Awas Yojna, 742 houses were constructed for rural poor. In all Rs.3.32 lakh mandays work were generated under this programme. The newly launched Employment Assurance Scheme emerged as the main employment generating programme. About 5.46 lakh mandays work was generated during 1996-97 by completing 1991 works under this programme at a cost of Rs.6.32 crores.

During 1997-98 Rs.20.14 crores had been earmarked for J.R.Y. and E.A.S. programmes.

Rs.64.66 lakhs were provided as subsidy and Rs.168 lakhs as loan to 1224 beneficiaries for establishing their own income generating units. During 1996-97 over 2,200 income generating units were established under I.E.D.P. Besides 479 units have been established in 1997-98. For this purpose Rs.23.78 lakhs were given as subsidy by the D.R.D.A to the beneficiaries.

ANIMAL AND SHEEP HUSBANDRY

During 1996-97 Rs.84.10 lakhs were spent under Animal Husbandry and Rs.30.76 lakh under Sheep Husbandry sectors while for 1997-98, Rs.123..69 lakhs were spent on Sheep Husbandry. During 1996-97 4.40 lakh animals and 1.37 lakh sheep were treated against various diseases while dosing was provided to about 4.09 lakh animals and 8.92 lakh sheep.

The animal population in the district was 4.52 lakh of which 30 per cent is crossed. The sheep and goat population has been recorded at 5.32 lakh and 2.94 lakh respectivey. The annual production of wool had reached 8.52 lakh kilograms while mutton production to 25 lakh kilograms. The milk production is 7590 metric tonnes per year.

CO-OPERATIVES

About 25940 out of 99255 families have been brought under Co-operative movement by the end of 1996-97. At present there are 71 Co-operative Societies with a total membership of 25940 families and a share capital of RS.69 lakhs operating. These co-opertive societies include 11 Co-operative Marketing Societies, 46 Multi-purpose Co-operative Societies, five Co-operative Consumer Stores and 8 other Societies. Besides, there are 49 consumer outlets and 19 kerosene oil depots which are run by the Marketing/ multi-purpose Societies. In addition 5 Co-operative Societies are under registeration.

Eight branches of Jammu Central Co-opertive Bank and 4 branches of Land Development Bank are also operative. During 1996-97 a total sale of Rs.49.017 lakh was recorded by the Co-operative Consumer outlets. About 34 lakh litres of K.Oil costing around Rs. 100 lakhs were sold through these outlets. About 11141 quintals of chemical fertilizers were sold to farmers during 1996-97 while as 13,660 quintals were sold during kharief season to the farmers through these co-operative outlets. As against allocation of Rs.11.92 lakhs for 1996-97, Rs.16.74 lakhs had been earmarked for the co-opertive sector in the District Plan for 1997-98.

FORESTS

An amount of Rs.45.63 lakh was spent during 1996-97 for rehabilitation of degraded forests, afforestation, forest protection and road communication purposes. About 4.57 lakh plants were planted over an area of 569 hectares. Besides, 60 kms. long bridal paths were constructed within forest area. During 1997-98 a target of planting 3.11 lakh plants had been fixed to cover an area of 300 hectares. Under the Social Forestry Programme 6 lakh plants were planted during 1996-97. In all Rs.55.11 lakhs were spent under this sector. During 1997-98, 3.50 lakh plants were planted under this programme by utilizing an amount of Rs.68 lakhs.

Preduman K. Joseph Dha
M.A. (Eng., Pol. Sc., His; Eco.,
B.Ed; LLB.

DROUGHT PRONE AREA PROGRAMME

In 1996-97 only Rs.19.63 were utilized as the scheme was transferred to NGO as per Central Government guide lines. Water shed committees were formed but they could not carry out the work. During 1997-98 the scheme has been implemented involving an amount of Rs.59 lakhs.

EDUCATION

During 1996-97, Rs.706.50 lakhs were utilised for purpose of education. For 1997-98 an amount of Rs.945.06 lakh had been provided for carrying on its activities. At present there are three Colleges, 22 Higher Secondary Schools, 83 High Schools, 17 Lower High Schools, 174 Middle Schools,29 Central Schools, 921 Primary Schools and 257 part time centres functioning.

Like other parts of the State, the Mid-day Meal Scheme was introduced in all the 22 Educational Blocks of the district from 1995-96, benefitting 46,000 primary school children. During the year 1996-97 over 47000 children were benifited by expending Rs.55.66 lakhs. Total enrolement at school level was 83627 which included 28420 girls.

HEALTH

Doda district has one District Hospital,7 Sub-district Hospitals, 23 Primary Health Centres,43 Allopathic Dispensaries, 64 Medical Aid Centres,145 Sub-Centres and Leprosy Centres besides a number of Ayurvedic/Unani Dispensaries providing medical facilities to the people. Special attention is also being given to control blindness and eradication of contagious diseases like Peorosy, T.B. etc. Special camps are being organised in far-flung areas for this purpose. Camps are also being held under Family Welfare Programme. A Blindness Control Society has been formed to organise eye treatment camps. About RS.172.47 lakhs were spent under Health sector during 1996-97. In 1997-98 Rs.276.13 lakhs had been allotted in the district plan for extending medicare facilities to the people.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Several schemes aimed at upliftment of over 1.22 lakh scheduled castes and scheduled tribes population, as per survey, have been launched. Under Tribal Sub-Plan, Rs.66.86 lakhs were spent under various sectors on raising of assets, creation of facilities and providing various tools/ equipment to the tribal population.

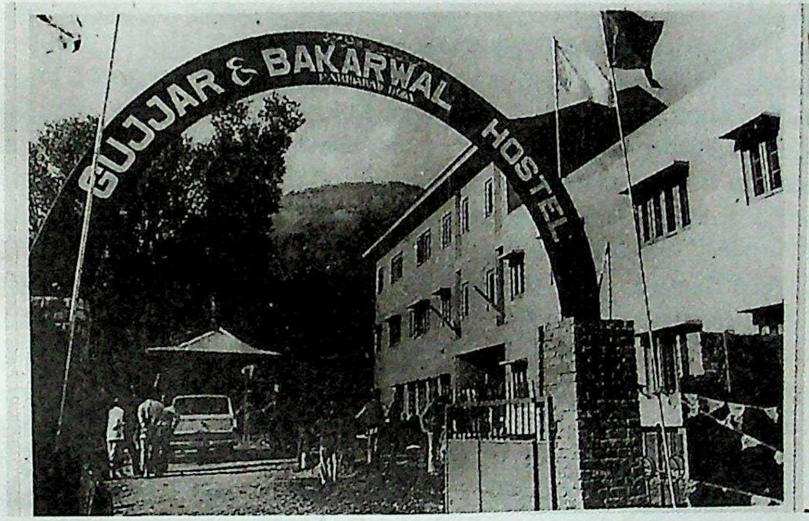
During 1996-97, an amount of Rs.22.16 lakhs was spent under this sector while as Rs.34.75 lakhs had been earmarked for 1997-98 for the upliftment of poor and down trodden. During 1996-97 6010 students belonging to Scheduled Castes community and 2496 students of other backward classes were provided pre-matric scholarhips.Re-imbursement fee was granted to 105 students of scheduled castes community and 42 other backward classes.

Seven I.C.D.S. Projects are functioning benefiting 17810 women and 10,680 children through supplementary nutrition. During 1996-97, Rs.57.59 lakhs were utilized for this programme while Rs.63.45 lakhs were earmarked for 1997-98. During the year all 14 blocks of the district had to be covered.

GUJJAR AND BAKERWALS

During 1996-97, 4350 students belonging to this community were provided scholarships, while re-imbursement of fee was granted in favour of 28 students of the community. One Gujjar Bakerwal Hostel has already been set-up providing free lodging, boarding and education facilities to 75 students.

An amount of Rs.19.35 lakhs was spent during 1996-97 for the upliftment of Gujjar and Bakerwals community. During 1997-98 Rs.36.76 lakhs had been earmarked for the purpose.



INDUSTRY

Forty seven units were formally and 107 units provisionally registered during 1996-97 and Rs.31.38 lakhs were spent. Under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojna Programme, 149 units were established during 1996-97. Various financial institutions provided loans to the tune of RS.106.04 lakhs to the beneficiaries for setting up of these units. Rs.30.28 lakhs was earmarked during 1997-98 for promotion of industrial activities.

HANDICRAFTS

Fourteen Training Centres including ten Advance Training Centres are imparting training to the unemployed youth in various handicrafts. During

1996-97, 350 youth were imparted training in these centres. An amount of Rs.37.83 lakhs was spent under this sector during the period. For 1997-98 RS.35 lakhs had been kept apart for the purpose. About 3500 persons had to be trained in various crafts. The Department also proposes to register three Handicrafts Co-operative Societies of the craftsmen to boost Handicrafts.

HANDLOOMS

The Handlooms department is implementing a number of programmes to promote production. These include imparting training to weavers on Fly Shuttle Looms, formation of Handloom Co-operative Societies, providing looms on 90 per cent subsidy etc. Nine Handloom Training Centres are imparting training to the youth in weaving of Fly Shuttle Looms. Besides, one Ready Made Garments Centre had also been setup. Eighteen Handloom Co-opertive Societies have sofar been set up with a membership of 739 weavers. Besides, seven Destitute Handloom Societies with membership of 237 weavers were registered and incentives to the tune of Rs.3 lakh provided to these societies during 1994-95. Two Handloom Development Centres costing Rs.27 lakhs each with a total membership of 301 weavers were registered in 1996-97. Under Special Assistance Programme, 27 Fly Shuttle Looms costing Rs.1.15 lakh were given on 90 per cent subsidy to 27 tribal weavers during 1996-97. Besides, 60 weavers were covered under Workshed Scheme, 55 house-less weavers were recommended housing facility under Indira Awas Yojna and 34 persons trained at two TRYSEM Centres under D.R.D.A. during 1996-97. About Rs.11.24 lakhs were spent in this sector under District Plan and in 1997-98 about RS.12.38 lakhs have been earmarked and 8 handloom development centres are being opened and 80 benificiaries will be covered.

SERICULTURE

Sericulture industry is also being given boost in this hilly district. About 19600 kg. of Co-coons were produced and 64000 mulberry trees planted during 1996-97 and in 1997-98 70,000 plants were proposed to be planted. Currently, 1,200 families are associated with this industry. Over Rs.13.78 lakhs were earmarked on this activity for 1997-98.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

Nearly 45 kms. surfaced/un-surfaced roads were either constructed or upgraded. About RS.489.32 lakhs were spent on the R&B sector in 1996-97 while RS.679.24 lakhs were emarked for 1997-98.

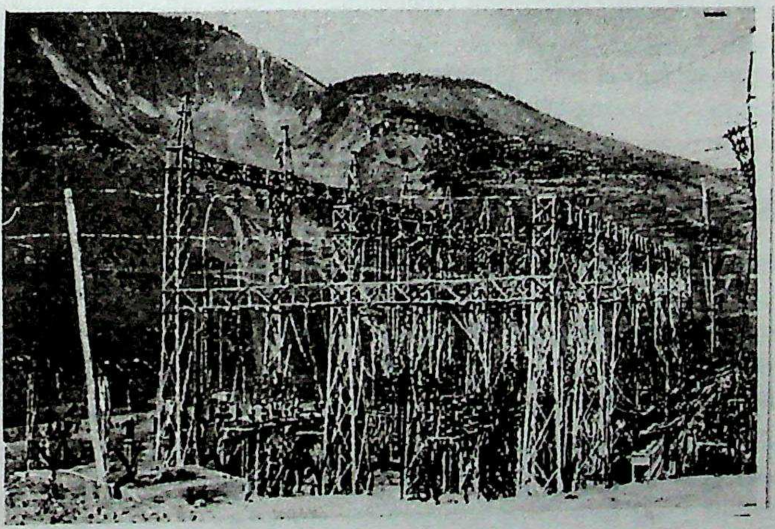
The total road length in the district under various categories of roads ending 1996-97 was 445.37 kms.

MINOR IRRIGATION

By March 1997, only 10342 hectares out of a net area sown of 59,000 hectares had been brought under irrigation facilities. Irrigation potential of 25 acres of land was created during 1996-97 and 187 acres potential utilized during 1996-97. An amount of RS.88.36 lakh was spent in 1996-97 while Rs.64 lakhs were earmarked for 1997-98.

DRINKING WATER SUPPLY

With the difficult hilly terrain the district possess a formidable challange to the Engineers to implement P.H.E. scheme to extend safe drinking water facilities to farflung villages but, as a result of continuing effort of the government, 652 villages have sofar been provided with potable water facility.



Grid station Khillani Doda

Of this, 33 hamlets with a population of 4476 were provided this facility spending Rs.380.10 lakhs during 1996-97. For 1997-98 about RS.367.39 lakhs had been earmarked for extending this facility to hitherto uncovered population and maintainence of existing schemes.

POWER

Out of 652 inhabited villages, 584 villages have sofar been electrified. During 1996-97, 30 hamlets were electrified and 36 more would have received this facility during 1997-98. About RS.180 lakhs had been ear-marked for the purpose for 1997-98.

RURAL SANITATION

This scheme aims at improving the sanitation in rural areas. During 1996-97, 359 household latrines, 3 lanes and drains were constructed at a cost of Rs.14.16 lakh while about 350 house latrines and 14 cattle platforms and 3 lanes were constructed in 1997-98. About Rs.15.50 lakhs had been allotted for this activity during 1995-96.

SELF EMPLOYMENT

Under State Self Employment Programme, 200 units are being established. Margin money at the rate of 105 of the loan sanctioned and 5 per cent interest subsidy is being provided to the beneficiaries by the Employment Department. During 1997-98 over Rs.43.09 lakhs were being spent for the purpose.

FISHERIES

Since the district is rich in water resources, the Government is endeavouring to tap the potential for the development of Fisheries. A number of measures have been launched to expand pisciculture. These include stocking of streams and village ponds with fish seed and fingerlings, establishment of hatcheries and fish farms and improvement of existing streams.

Two Trout hatcheries, one each at Gatha Bhaderwah and Kishtwar, are under construction. One Fish farm has been constructed at Banihal. For 1997-98 about Rs.9.57 lakhs have been earmarked for this activity.

2,500 carp seed and 3000 trout fingerlings were stocked in various ponds/streams of the district. Two existing trout streams in Inderwal and Marwah blocks were improved and one new trout stream was also opened in Paddar block during 1996-97. As many as 100 fishermen were provided free nylon twins and 200 fishermen brought under Janta Accidental Insurance Scheme.

During 1997-98, 4000 carp seeds and 3700 trout fingerlings were proposed to be stocked in various ponds/streams. About 150 more fishermen are being covered under Janta Accidential Insurance Scheme. An amount of Rs.9.57 lakhs had been earmarked for this purpose in 1997-98 while Rs.7.57 lakhs were spent in 1996-97.

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Public Distribution System is of great significance in a highly mountainous district of Doda in view of its hilly terrain, scattered inhabitations, inaccessibility and undependable road net work. Most of the areas remain cut off from rest of the State during winter and rainy seasons. In this backdrop distribution of foodgrain is always a challenge to the administration. However, a stable network of Public Distribution System has been established to meet requirements of the people. Ration is being provided according to 1991 population. Number of rationees in the district is about 5.25 lakhs.

The Public Distribution System net work comprises 17 Government stores, 44 Government Sales Centres and 275 Private Sale Depots which include 8 sale outlets run by Co-operatives. The Godown of Food Corporation of India at Khellani has a storage capacity of 30,000 quintals. All the 14 C.D. Blocks have been brought under Revamped Public Distribution System. From June 1997 the district has been covered under below poverty line ration supply at subsidised rate of 10 kgs of ration to about 38338 families in the district.

BANKING

As many as 53 branches of various banks/financial institutions are operating in Doda district. Of these, 24 branches are of J&K Bank, 12 of State Bank of India, 8 of Jammu Central Co-operative Bank, two each of Punjab and Sind Bank and Punjab National Bank, three branches of Land Development Bank and a branch of State Financial Corporation.

The deposits in these banks in 1996-97 were about Rs.171 crores while Rs.24 crores were advanced as loans by these banks, Rs.7.98 crores are proposed to be advanced under Annual Credit Plan.

P & T

With the extension of S.T.D. facility to Bhaderwah and Kishtwar and setting of an Electronic Telephone Exchange at Doda, the telecommunication system in the district has improved considerably during 1996-97. There is a well established network of Telecom System. At present there are 16 telephone exchanges with 1422 telephone connections and 161 Public Call Offices and three Exchanges with STD facility. There are 14 post offices rendering service to the public.

TREKKING

Since the district is mountainous, it has umpteen number of trekking routes which pass through places with unbelievable captivating scenic beauty. The popular routes are given below:

KISHTWAR-DAKSUM is a four day trek covering 41 kms. Taking off from Kishtwar it ends at Daksum a beautiful site in the Anantnag district of Kashmir Valley. The trek moves from Kishtwar to Mughal Maidan (8 kms.), Mughal Maidan to Chhatroo (9kms.) Chahatroo to Sinthan Pass (8kms.) and from Sinthan Pass to Daksum (16 kms.)

KISHTWAR PADAM is a seven days trek. Every stretch of it as indicated below is covered in a day. It passes through an altitude of 17,000 ft.at Bhuswas Kishtwar-Shasho, Shasho-Atholi, Atholi-Matsal,Mastal-Bhuswas,Bhuswas Ratrat,Ratrat-Ating and Ating-Padam

WARWAN TREK is a 3 day trek covering 60 kms. Kishtwar to Bhandar Kot (12 kms.) then to Patninhal (15 kms.), to Sounder (16 kms), to Sirshi (15 kms) and then to Henzil via Ramgal (12 kms).

SYNTHAN TREK is a 85kms. trek which passes through 12,450 ft. Kishtwar to Bhaderwah to Dedpath to Mugal-Maidan to Chharoo to Chungam to Synthan.

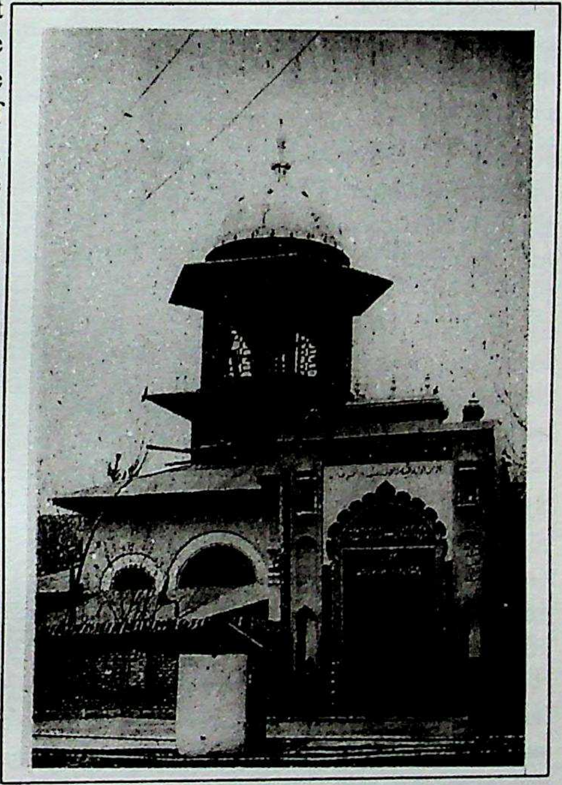
PADDAR KILLAR comprises trek from Kishtwar to Dool (4Kms), to Galhar (15 Kms), to Shantoo (10 Kms.), to Atholi-Ishtyari (4 Kms.) to Dar Wass (10 kms.) to killar.

SARTHAL TREK is a 13 kms. trek which takes off from Kishtwar to Shalimar to Galigarh to Sarthal. The Central Government have approved funds for creating infrastructural facilities for trekkers at Atholi.

PLACES OF TOURIST INTEREST

Doda abounds in scenic spots. With large forest area, snow-clad peaks, virgin trekking routes and majestic Chenab river passing through it, the district offers a variety of tourist spots, health resorts and enthrilling trekking routes. But, for the communication constraints, this district would have attracted a sizeable chunk of home/foreign tourists.

KISHTWAR: The present name, related with 'Kishat Rishi' who stayed here, is the modified version of earlier name of Kishaswar. Located about 232 kms. from Jammu at a height of 5,360 ft., Kishtwar in its ancient form Kashthavata, is first referred to in the Rajatarangini during the reign of Raja Kalsa of Kashmir (A.D. 1063-89), when "Uttamaraja", the ruler of Kashthavata visited the court of the Kashmiri king in company with several other hill chiefs to pay their respects to the Raja. The place endowed with dense forests of deodar, fir and pine is treasure of scenic beauty. The place has rich wild-life like snow-deer, leopard, Neel Gai and musk-deer. There are high altitude mountains ranging between 20,000 ft. to 21,000 ft. like Nun Kun, Burmah and Barnag. It offers tremendous scope for pilgrim tourism also as some important shrines are located in the area. These include Ziarat Zain-Shah-Sahib, Farid-ud-Din Sahib, Hazrat Asrar-ud-Din Sahib, Athara Bhuja Devi temple and Chandi Mata temple.



Zirat Assar-e-Din (Kishtwar)

BHADARWAH: Popularly called Chhota-Kashmir, has bewitching natural beauty which enthrills any visitor. Stroll amidst thick coniferous forests is always refreshing. Bhadarwah valley is predominantly a mountainous torrid town situated 80 kms. from Batote. This sub-division is full of virgin beauty.

The festive mood in the district begins with the melting of snow in April and the sprouting of greenery all round. The fire activity starts with funfare from the famous temple of Subarnag. Shiva devotees assemble here for 2-3 days and celebrate the occasion with high fervour and gaiety. It is followed by a week- long celebrations at neighbouring majestic peak-Reushira.

Kailash Yatra is another famous pilgrimage of the area which is considered an important Hindu pilgrimage. Mela Pat symbolises victory of local Raja over Emperor Akbar. Local folk and talent is displayed at this festival.

The other two pilgrimages, which are held around the same period, revolve around historically important and religiously significant temple of Gupt Ganga and Vasukinag. The Gupt Ganga temple is said to be connected with Pandavas. It is said that during Agyatvas, Pandavas spent a few days here in the land of snakes. A big foot print can be seen on one of the rocks of this temple and it is attributed to be that of "Bhim Sen". The temple of Vasukinag, has single stone piece idol of lord Vasukinag, belonging to 11th century. These fairs/festivals/yatras and celebrations hold a bright promise for good pilgrim tourism.

Vasak Nag Idols (Bhaderwah)

Bhadarwah offers to the tourists a variety of beautiful landscapes, colourful local fairs, important festivals with festive mood and unique mosaic culture, extremely soothing and pleasant summer (temperature ranges from 18 degrees to 32 degrees), numerous spots of scenic splendour and snow winter. Moreover, all the places of tourist-interest are at an arms length. A full and majestic view of Bhadarwah valley with snow-capped Ashapati and Kailash peaks in background makes a visitor wonder struck and amazed. One falls in love with Bhadarwah at first sight. The area is also known for the richness of its cultural heritage, which is frequently reflected in its fairs and festivals. The characteristics of Bhadarwah fairs and festivals are its main originality, simplicity, separate identity and enchanting effect on the mind. Almost round the year a fair called Kud in the local dialect is held at different places. The fair commences on the first of Baisakh every year and continues upto the last day of the month.

The most important fairs of the area are those of Subardhar and Vasak Dehra, Gatha and Nolthi, Malothi, Trown, Jora, Renkha, Bheja, Manthla, Alabani, Cheka, Gwalo, Chagsu, Gugsu, Nandna and Khangal. But the historic fair of Mela Pat (or Pateru Kud) has been dominating the area. It takes place on the day of Nag Panchmi (August or September) seven to fifteen days after "Kailash Yatra" and lasts for three days. It also symbolises victory of the local Raja over Emperor Akbar.

Both Hindus and Muslims jointly celebrate their festivals, like Diwali, Ramnavami, Janam-Ashtami, Id, Yom-e-Ashora, Urs etc. in an ideal harmony. The local dance is mainly of three kinds-Dhaku (Kud), Dholak and Ghurie. The Dhaku dance is the main dance of Bhadarwah. A multitude of people dance in a circle or circles, with elaborate movements and twists of the whole body and measured steps forward and backward. There is complete uniformity and rythem among the dancers. The Dholak (Chorus) dance is a dance for all times. The Ghurie dance is for women folk and stands in contrast to Dhaku-Dholak dances. Women with living husbands alone can participate in this dance.

CHINTA VALLEY is a picturesque valley located at a height of 6,500 ft., has thick coniferous forests on all sides and Chinta nallah flowing through it. Many scenic spots are situated around this place. One such place is known as Thuba, which is situated across Chinta nallah. Horse ride from Baggan to Thuba is enjoyable. Thuba is the highest point which separates the Chinta valley from Bhadarwah. This place also has ancient temple of Lord Shiva.

On Bhadarwah-Chinta road, 6 kilometers short of Chinta valley, a bridle path takes off for famous Subarnag peak, which is crowned by Subarnag temple (10,200 ft.) overlooking the whole Bhadarwah and Chinta valley. Lush-green undulating vast grasslands make it a treasure of nature.

REUSHRA is a majestic peak having a height of 11,000 ft. On one side is situated the sleepy valley of Jai and humming valley of Chinta while on other side is the hitherto unexplored region of Chiralla. Reushira peak is beset with ancient temple of Goddess Durga. Thousands of devotees visit the temple to offer prayers, especially during Navratras.

NALTHI-BASTI is 10 kms. from Bhadarwah which serves as a base camp for trekkers. It has become a junction point with the completion of Bhadarwah-Bani-Basohli road. Trekkers from Sarthal (Bani) and Bhadarwah take rest at this beautiful place after descending from or ascending to 10,500 ft. height. Apart from dense deodar forests, it has been gifted with lushgreen patches of grasslands studded with blooming flowering plants of different colours. The cool breeze flowing across snow-clad mountains makes the place all the more fascinating in summer months.

SARTINGAL is another unexplored area situated on the southern extreme of Bhadarwah valley. Sunshine on the one hand and the fragrant breeze from Kailash, Ashapati hills and neighbouring forests on the other, make the place different from other spots. It is a place of undulating plains and streams. The Valley is watered by crystalling streams in the backdrop of forests covered mountains. One feels close to nature which blissfully unfolds to the visitors virgin beauty in plenty.

KHANI TOP is situated 25 kms. from Bhadarwah.It too has potential of becoming a good picnic spot. Trekkers would also find it a convenient launching site for expedition to Ashapati peak on the border with Himachal Pradesh.Amidst greenery,it offers a treasure of scenic splendour, especially during sun-set and sun-rise.

PADRI is a "Gali" of undulating landscape, located 40 kms. from Bhadarwah on Bhadarwah-Chamba road, at a height of 10,500 ft. It is the highest point on Bhadarwah-Chamba road. It experiences heavy snow fall upto 5 metres and snow-melting continues right upto mid June. It is one of the most sought after picnic spot even now, and with the opening of inter-state bus service between Bhadarwah and Chamba, its importance will increase. The gentle curves and slopes of hills beset with lushgreen carpet of grass comes as surprise. Calm of the meadow is broken when thousands of pilgrims of the famous Mani-Mahesh Yatra pass through Padri in July every year. In addition to the natural beauty, one can have thrilling horse ride on the meadows. The Central Government have approved the spot for development of facility for trekkers.

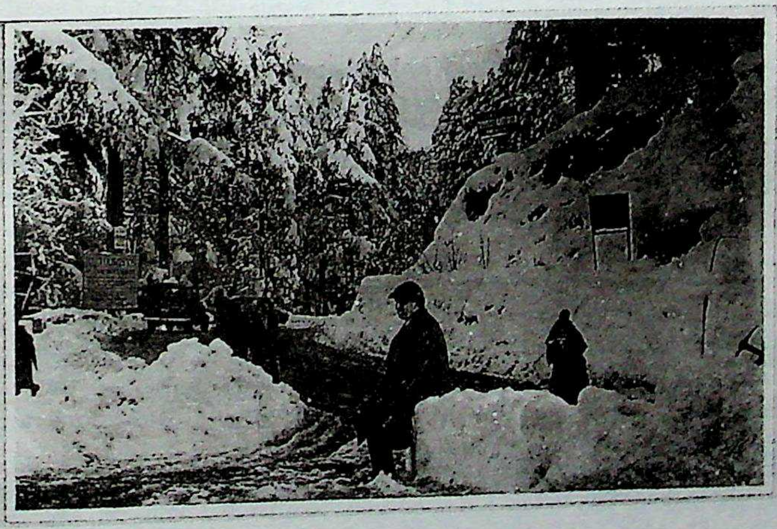
BHAL PADRI is yet another picturesque valley which has an intersection

CC-

of rivulets and streams. A dreamland, not known to many, is 4 kms. north-east of Padri, having unique landscape where many miniature valleys join hundreds of milky streams and rivulets traverse this composite valley down the length.

SEOJ MEADOW: If Gulmarg and Pahalgam are jewels of "Paradise" on earth, Seoj Meadow is diamond in the crown of Bhadarwah, pride of Jammu region. The amazing beauty is found in plenty. On the south is the sacred Kailash Kund, surrounded by snow-capped mountains. On way to Kailash Kund, there is unique landscape at Shankh Paddar. The meadow of Seoj is flanked by a beautiful river on its west which emanates from hills surrounding Kailash Kund. The landscape across the river is replica of the beauty of Pahalgam whereas on the eastern side there are long stretches of grasslands. On the western side meadows take a descent along crystalline water of Seoj rivulet and run towards Ramnagar areas of Udhampur district. Seoj Dhar, as locally known, is the camping ground for thousands of yatris of famous Kailash Yatra who come from Bhadarwah.

JAI VALLEY is picturesque valley, 35 kms. from Bhadarwah. It is an extremely beautiful valley spread over 6 kms. Another nearby attraction is



Patnitop

a beautiful sprawling meadow.

PATNITOP is the most popular tourist spot of Jammu region. Patnitop is the highest point of Jammu-Srinagar National Highway which resembles with Gulmarg. Its lushgreen meadows and pine trees catch every one's attention. In winter, it is covered with a white carpet of snow and its slopes have been successfully experimented for skiing.

SANASAR is another famous tourist resort of Jammu situated nearly 30 kms. from Patnitop. Its meadow is also very attractive. Recently a golf course has been laid on its meadow.

BATOTE is a well known tourist spot on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway which attracts tourists in large numbers.

RAMBAN, an important town on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, about 148 kms.from Jammu, is situated on the right bank of river Chenab. All civic and basic facilities are available here. It is a sub-divisional headquarter.

SHIVGARH, situated in the south-east of Patnitop, has a lot of potential for tourism development. It could be a good satellite tourist resort for Patnitop. There is a proposal to construct 15 kms. road from Patnitop to Shivgarh,which will open up this area.

SURLIKUND is another beautiful spot of Doda district which is full of tourist potential.It is situated 12 kms.ahead of Sanasar.

LAL DRAMAN, a beautiful spot 15 kms. north-east of Doda, amidst lofty deodar and fir trees, is one of the best tourist site of the district.

NAQSEEN, full of scenic beauty, is located on the east of Kishtwar town, which is surrounded by forests. This place has been named after the Budhist preacher Naqseen.

DACHHAN is a part of Marwah Niabat. From here, the route originates for high mountains of Bramah,Vaishno,Mahesh and Sickle North. It is rich in trout fish. Mathralla is the most beautiful spot which has springs and a rock statue of a cow. It is from the feet that the water gushes out. There is a national park also.

WARWAN is a beautiful valley adjoining Dachhan. It spreads from villages Hanzi and Inshan. The Valley has good spots like Tuiller, Nopachi, Marwah, Tata Pani, Dashbal and Inshan and it is connected with Kashmir via Margan Top (13,000 ft) which leads to village Inshan from a track that also goes to Pahalgam. These areas are rich in trout fish, having unique rainbow colour, each weighing 2 kgs. to 6 kgs. Nopachi could serve as a base camp for expeditions to Nunkun via Tata Pani which has a hot water spring and is good to have bath in sulpher containing water for skin diseases and rheumatic pains. Marwah river passes just in the centre of the valley, which otherwise contains meadows. These meadows are used for grazing the cattle by nomadic Bakarwals.

MUGHAL MAIDAN, about 24 kms. from Kishtwar is named Mughal Maidan as it is claimed that Mughals had suffered heavy casualties at this place when they attacked Kishtwar via Synthan and Singhpora. One of the beautiful trek starts from here which goes to Kashmir valley via Singhpora. It passes through at a height of 11,570 ft. and culminates at Wello near Kokarnag. Mughal Maidan is situated on the bank of Chhatroo river. The slopes adjacent Mughal Maidan are full of thick forests which are rich in wild-life.

BHANDARKOT, an ideal place for rock climbing, is also the confluence of the rivers Chander and Bhaga coming from Paddar, Marwah and Chhatroo. From this place downwards, Chander Bhaga is called as Chenab river. This spot serves as a take off point for trek to Dachhan, Nunkun, Bramah, Marwah and Warwan.

ZUMUM PALMAR,located five kms. on hill-side from Kuriya Palmar,is a beautiful spot amidst natural scenery,lushgreen meadows and dense forests. Ziarat Sharief of Zen Shah Sahib is situated near this spot which is visited by a large number of devotees from the district.

SARTHAL, situated 18 kms. from Kishtwar, has a famous temple of Devi Athara Bhuja in a cave. It is believed that the Goddess had come from Hari Parbat (Kashmir) via Singhpora pass and took rest in the cave. The fire dance or walking on fire, which is held in July and August, is unique in itself to witness.

PADDAR, the area with rich wild-life, is full of natural beauty. The famous sapphire/ruby mines are located in this area. It has hot springs and a river which is ideal for cannoing. One trek goes to Zanskar via Machail.There are virgin treks having lot of potential.

MACHAIL is a two-day journey from Atholi (Paddar) via Gulabgarh with a night halt at Chashoti. The famous Machail Yatra starts from Bhadarwah and ends at Machail where the famous shrine of Chandi Mata is located.

Trekkers can continue their journey ahead of Machail with a night halt at Rujwass for Zanskar, Paddam and Kargil.

COMPERATIVE STATEMENT OF YEAR WISE EXPENDITURE (IN LAKH)

Sector	Expdt. 92-93	Expdt. 93-94	Expdt. 94-95	Expdt. 95-96	Outlay 96-97	Expdt. 96-97	Expdt. 92-97
Agriculture & Allied Service	378.96	456.46	563.47	609.13	497.06	716.48	2724.77
Rural Dev.	263.64	260.89	316.41	544.10	673.73	337.11	1722.15
Industries	54.56	61.82	68.34	78.36	89.43	94.65	375.73
Communication.	224.20	263.83	282.45	336.53	395.79	495.68	1602.69
Energy	10.20	128.70	122.30	169.48	195.00	198.33	629.01
Social & Gen.Services	844.13	979.98	1026.20	1157.78	1373.77	1475.90	5483.99
Others	-	2.77	2.91	7.00	3.40	8.00	20.68
Total:-	**1775.69**	**2154.45**	**2382.35**	**2902.38**	**3428.18**	**3326.15**	**12541.02**

WHO'S WHO

Chodhary Mohd.Ramzan,
Minister for Forests.
Chairman DDB.

Sh.Chaman Lal Gupta	M.P.
Sheikh Abdul Rehman	M.L.A. Bhaderwah
Sh.Khalid Najeeb Soharawardy	M.L.A. Doda
Qazi Jalal-ud-Din	M.L.A. Inderwal
Sh.Bali Bhagat	M.L.A. Ramban
Sh.Farooq Ahmed Mir	M.L.A. Banihal
Sh.Abdul Aziz Wani	M.L.C. Marwah
Sh.Firdos Ahmed Baba	M.L.C. Bhaderwah
Sh.Daya Krishan Kotwal	M.L.C. Bhaderwah

Sh.Devi Dass Thakur
Former Governor of Assam,
Former Deputy Chief Minister J&K

Maulvi Abdul Rashid
Former Dy. Speaker of Assembly, N.C.

Sh.A.G.Mast Faridi
Former Minister, N. C. leader
and Member D.A.G.

Sh.P.N.Raju
Former Minister, NC leader
and Member D.A.G.

Sh.AbdulGaniGoni
Former Minister, Speaker of
State Assembly and Indian Ambassador
to Jordan.

Sh.Ghulam Mohd Bhaderwahi
Former Minister.

Sh. Mohd. Sharief Niaz
Former Minister,Congress leader

Sh. Narain Dass Bhagat
Former Legislator Bhaderwahi

Sh.H. L. Hiteshi
Former Minister

Sh.Sona Ullah Banihali
Former Legislator

Sh.Bharat Gandhi
Former Legislator

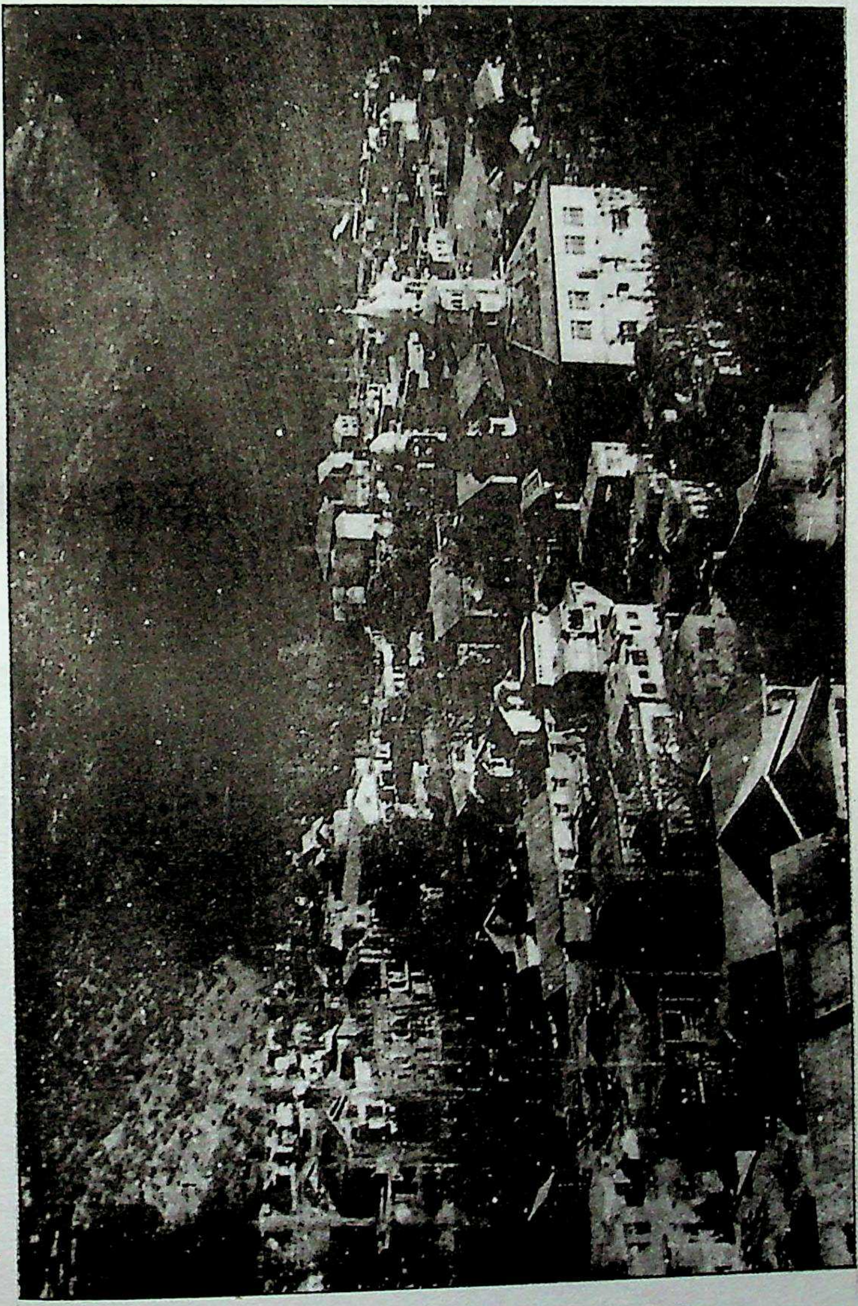
Sh.Ghulam Qadir Wani
Former Legislator

Sh.Ghulam Hassan Arman
Former Legislator

Telephone Nos.

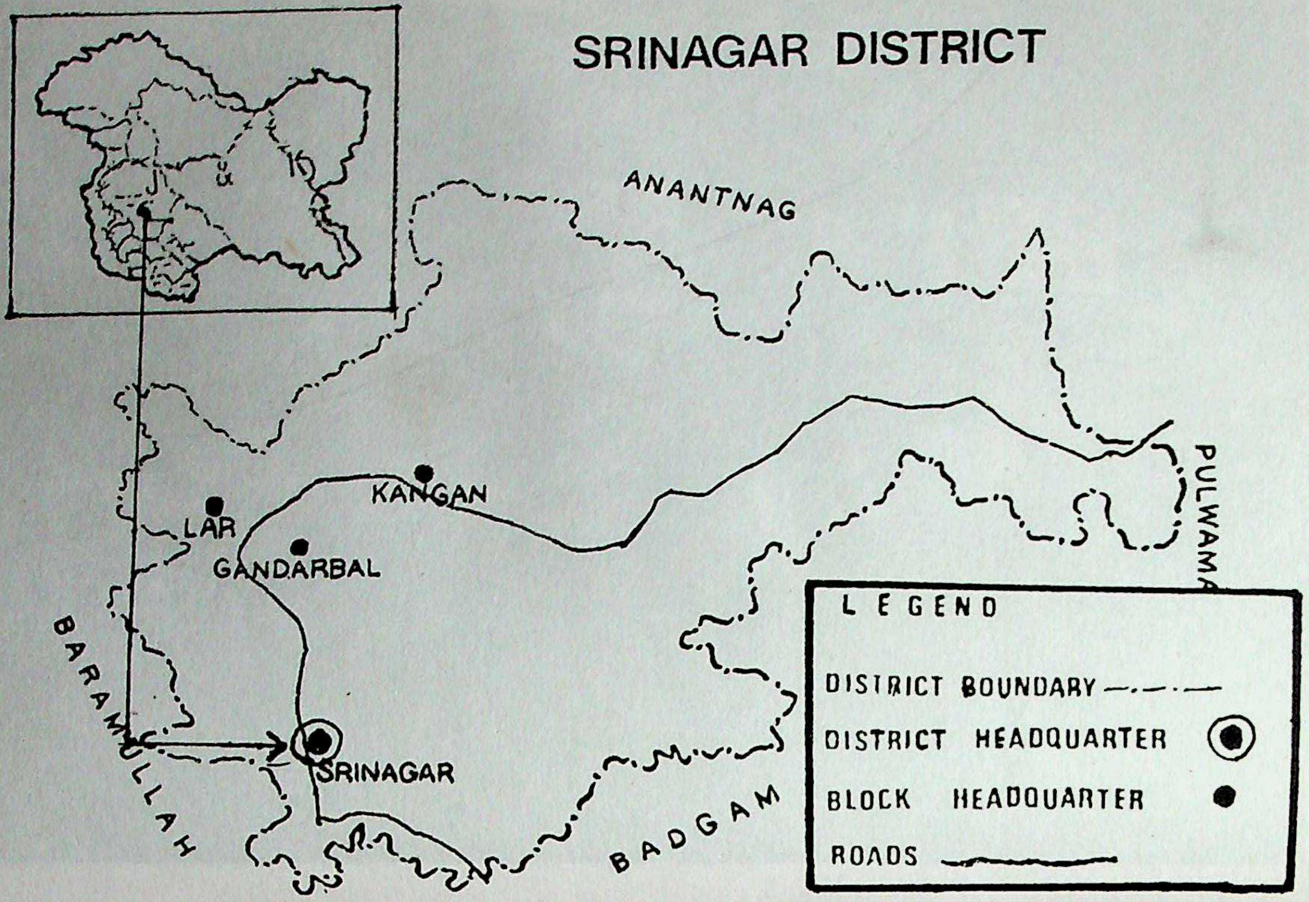
STD Code 01996

	Office	**Residence**
Dy.Commissioner	33230	3229/33283/ 33529
DIG, Police Hq.	4363	4353
S.P. Doda	33396	33224/33524
Addl. S. P.	33221	33221
Addl. D.C. Doda	33328	-
Addl. D. C. Ramban	-	-
SE, PWD	33544	3296
SE, Hydraulic	33441	3281
D.I.O. Doda	33533	33414



A view of Doda City

SRINAGAR DISTRICT


ANANTNAG
PULWAMA
KANGAN
LAR
GANDARBAL
SRINAGAR
BARAMULLAH
BADGAM
LEGEND
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
DISTRICT HEADQUARTER
BLOCK HEADQUARTER
ROADS

SRINAGAR AT A GLANCE

Area		2228 sq km
Forests		660.50 Sq.Km.
Area sown		0.24 lakh hect
Population	(1981 census)	708,328
	(a) Rural	138,133
	(b) Urban	570,195
Projected population (1991)		8,92,506
Tehsils		3
Towns		3
Blocks		4
Panchayats		93
Villages		175 (7 uninhabited)
Literacy rate (1981) (percent)		33.31
	(a) Male	41.97
	(b) Female	24.66
Institutions		129
Colleges/Polytechnics		10
Universities		2
Villages electrified		168
Villages with drinking water		168
Road length Kms		1296
Livestock Population (lakh)		2.50
Annual Plan 1997-98 (crore)		Rs.33.46
Lok Sabha Constituency		1 (Srinagar & Badgam)
Assembly segments		10
Electorate 1987		4,64,364
Electorate 1995		5,42,118
Electorate 1998		5,46,292

Assembly segments.

Electorate (1998)	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**		**Polling booths**
1. Kangan	23006	19187	42193	-	55
2. Ganderbal	29162	25205	54367	1	62
3.Hazratbal	37834	31864	69698	-	90
4. Zadibal	26088	23082	49170	-	56
5. Idgah	29464	26673	56137	-	65
6. Khanyar	31655	28378	60033	-	76
7. Habbakadal	30239	28548	58787	2	68
8. Amirakadal	31070	26332	57402	-	65
9. Sonawar	28338	24488	52826	3	64
10.Batmalloo	40106	35612	75718	-	84

Srinagar district situated in the centre of Kashmir Valley, is surrounded by five districts. In the north it is flanked by Kargil, in the South by Pulwama, in the north-west by Badgam. The capital city of Srinagar, is located 1730 metres above sea level. The district, with a population of 892506 souls (estimated population of 1991), is spread over an area of 2228 square kilometres. It comprises three tehsils/towns viz Srinagar, Ganderbal and Kangan, four blocks (Srinagar, Ganderbal, Kangan and Leh), besides 175 villages. The population density in the district Srinagar is 401 per square kilometer which is highest in the State. According to the 1981 Census, the district had 570195 Urban and 138133 rural population with 378133 males and 330139 females. The decadal variation percentage in population in the district since 1951 to 1991 is +12.62 (1951-61),+20.21 (1961-71)+25.52 (1971-81) and 12.62 (1981-91). The literacy rate of the district was 33.80 per cent in 1981. Out of the total literate population of 240121, males and females accounted for 158708 and 81413 respectively.

HISTORY

According to a popular legend, Kashmir Valley was a vast lake. Kashyap Rishi drained out the Valley of water and made it habitable. It is said that originally Yakshas and Pishachas tribles inhabited higher reaches who did not allow the people to live in peace in pre-historic days.

King Ashoka brought Buddhism into Kashmir which was strengthened by Kanishka. In 6th century, Huns came to rule the Valley. The area attained freedom in 530 AD but it was shortlived.

History of Srinagar is infact the history of Kashmir. It has been the hub round which revolved the wheel of Kashmir's social, cultural, economic and political life. The city of great antiquity has had a chequered history which dates back to 250 B.C. When King Ashoka founded Srinagar as capital city which occupied the site of the present Pandrethan about 5 Kms. from the district headquarters and named it as "Srinagari". Hieun Tsiang (631-633 A.D.) defines the boundaries of Pandrethan as extending, along Zaberwan hills, from Harvan to Zewan or Sempur.

The city of Srinagar known by many names in the past including Hemavat, Praverpora and Praversenpur, remained the seat of power ever since, with different kings shifting their capital from one portion of the present extensive Srinagar city to the other. In the sixth century A.D. a new city at the present site broadly was founded by Raja Praversena II near the Hariparbat hill in the middle of sixth century which came to be known as Praverpora after its founder's name. The new name, however, did not find favour with the people and the city again came to be known as Srinagar.

The description of Praverpora by the famous chronicler, Kalhana, is broadly in conformity with the present Srinagar with "market and mansions mostly built of wood reaching the clouds." Sir Aurel Stein, the English interpreter of Kalhana's Rajatarangni was able to identify some of the ancient buildings and localities in Srinagar referred to by Kalhana. The latter capitals of Kashmir founded by successive rulers lost their importance to the city of Praverpora, Lalitaditya's Parihaspura, Jayapida's Jayapura, Awantivarman's Awantipura or the cities of Kanishkapura and Juskapura are either in ruins or only part of history.

During the muslim rule, Sadar-ud-Din Rinchan Shah founded Rinchenpur in 1223 A.D. Ala-ud-Din laid out the city of Ala-ud-Din Pora near Hariparbat hill in 1345 A.D. as his capital. Zain-ul-Abideen (1420-70 A.D.) founded Nowshera as the capital while Akbar founded Naagar Nagar and raised around it 28 ft. high wall. The Mughals called the city as Kashmir. However, in the Sikh rule the name is believed to have been reverted to Srinagar. It was in the Dogra rule (1846-1947) that Srinagar, besides being the capital of Kashmir, was elevated to the status of the summer capital with the Royal Court of the newly formed State, extending from Leh to Lakhanpur, moving annually to the "Venice of the East" on the eve of Summer.

Srinagar has been described as the city of Sri, an appellation of Hindu goddess Lakshmi, while some believe that it means city of the Sun, as Sri is other name of the Sun. The Koshur (Kashmiri) Encylopaedia. however, rejects this belief and translates the word Srinagar into English, as the "City" and its Arabic equivalent, “Al-Balad”.

The city of Srinagar or broadly the present district of Srinagar, has always been an attraction for all kinds of people. Kings have fought pitched battles here to gain control over the territory of Kashmir. Travellers and tourists have been drawn in numbers to see symbol of the Paradise on Earth and pilgrims and preachers have found the city as a place for the attainment of ultimate spiritual contentment. The place was the venue of the Buddhist conference during the reign of Kanishka and muslim preachers, Syed Sharif-ud-Din Bulbul and Mir Syed Ali Hamdani, chose this place to spread Islam. Travellogues and the chronicles are full of praise for the beauty of Srinagar. The eleventh century chronicler, Bilhana, gives a glowing picture of the beauties of the city. To him, Srinagar was not only the principal city of Kashmir but excelled in beauty over all other cities. Under the Mughal rule, Srinagar was ‘a splendid city by the standard of time’. Akbar’s courtier, Abul Fazl remarks, “Srinagar is a great city and has long been peopled”.

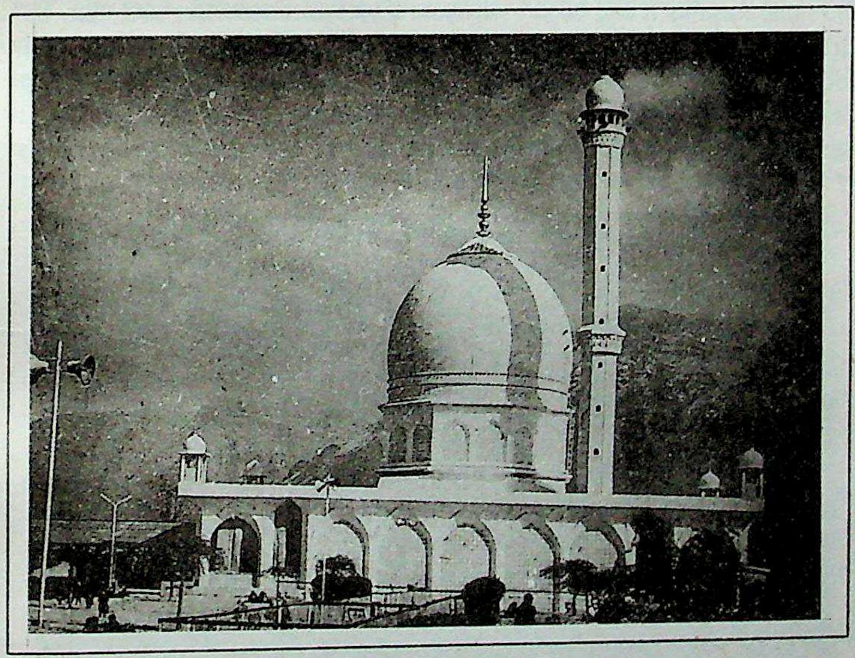
Archaeologically, Srinagar district is of great significance. The Neolithic site of Burzahama here is an outstanding archacological find, the excavations from where have thrown new light on the life and times of the ancient people of Kashmir. The Buddhist ruins of the Kushan period are found in and around Harvan. The fourth century A.D. finished pottery excavated from the area presently called Soura, also signifies archaeological importance of Srinagar. Eighth and ninth century A.D are considered the renaissance of the art of buildings in Kashmir. Srinagar was deprived of the fruits of development since the rulers of the times, Lalitaditya and Awantivarman, transferred their capitals elsewhere. The advent of muslim rule (1320-1819) saw Srinagar undergoing radical change and its political, social and economic importance rose to new heights. The Shahmiri Sultan, Zain-ul-Abideen revolutionised the trade and social life of the capital by patronising the art and craft which reached the pennacles of fame and continue to be cherished worldwide. The Mughals enriched the beauty and the landscape of Srinagar by laying gardens and planting chinar trees.

Over the centuries, city of Srinagar, originally situated on the right bank of the Jhelum river, expanded in all the directions and post 1947 period saw expansion of the city to about 90 sq kms, extending on one side from Pandrethan to Pandach in Ganderbal and on the other from Harwan to Chhanpora in Budgam district while on another side its boundaries have stretched beyond Zainakot, in to the Baramulla district. The beginning of the popular rule in 1947 was watershed in the development of the Srinagar district in general and the city of Srinagar in particular. The high rising buildings, concrete bridges, medical and educational institutions, agricultural development and an impetus to business and trade are the hallmarks of this period, transforming life of the people from deprivation to plenty. The prominent buildings and institutions constructed during the nineteenth and the twentieth century include Hari Niwas, S.P.S. Museum, Amar Singh College, Sri Pratap College, S.M.H.S. Hospital, Civil Secretariat, Medical college, University of Agriculture Sciences, Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, High Court Complex,Radio Kashmir,Television Station, Lal Ded Hospital, Children Hospital and Bone and Joint Hospital Hospital,Revenue Complex, J.B.Panth Hospital to name just a few.

PLACES OF INTEREST

Srinagar is the confluence of different faiths where various religions prospered in harmony with one another.Mosques,Temples and Gurdwaras are seen standing side by side. The district abounds in places of historical, religious and archaeological significance.

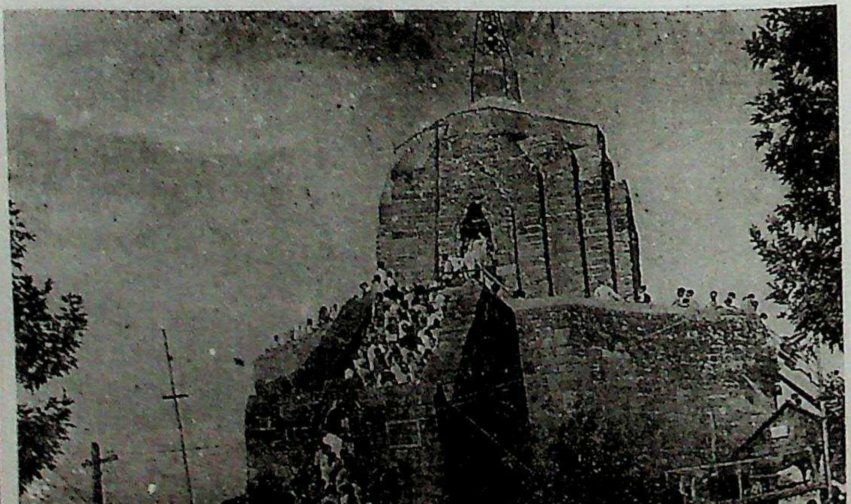
Hazratbal Shrine:The most important muslim shrine of Kashmir, that commands the reverence of the people beyond measure, is undoubetedly the Hazratbal Shrine,which is situated on the left bank of the famous Dal Lake in Srinagar. This unmatched reverence is anchored in the love and respect for the Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him), whose Moi-e-Muqqadas, (the sacred hair) is preserved here. The shrine is known by many names including Hazratbal, Assar-e-Sharief, Madinat-us-Sani, Dargah Sharief and Dargah.



HAZRATBAL SHRINE

The history of the shrine goes back to the early seventeenth century when the Mughal Emperor Shahjahan's Subedar, Sadiq Khan, laid out a garden here and constructed a palacial building, Ishrat Mahal or Pleasure House in 1623. However, the Emperor, during his visit in 1634, ordered the building to be converted into a prayer house with some additions and alterations. During the time of Aurangzeb, when Moi-e-Muqqadas arrived in Kashmir in 1699, it was first kept in the shrine of Naqashband Sahib in the heart of the city. Since the place was found to be insufficient in view of the unprecedented rush of people who thronged the place to have a glimpse of the Moi-e-Muqqades, it was decided to shift it to Hazratbal, then known as Sadiqabad. The construction of the present marble structure was started by the Muslim Auqaf Trust headed by Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah in 1968 and completed in 1979. The Moi-e-Muqqadas is displayed on various occasions related with the life of the Prophet and his four holy companions.

Shankaracharya Temple:It is located at 1100 ft. above surface level of the main city on the Shankaracharya hill.The Shiva temple, as Kalhana believes, wasconstructed by Raja Gopadatya in 371 B.C. and, as such, is the oldest shrine in Kashmir, though it is not certain if the temple exists in the same form as it had been built more than two thousand years ago. The first repair of the temple is believed to have been undertaken during the reign of Lalitaditya in the eighth century A.D. According to the historian Shrivara, Zain-ul-Abideen conducted second repairs of the temple after it had been damaged in an earthquake. The third time repair was undertaken



SHANKARACHARYA TEMPLE

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during the governorship of Sheikh Mohi-ud-Din, when the temple is believed to have been named as Shankaracharya. During the Sikh rule itself, the festival of Shravan Purnima began to be celebrated at the temple. Dogra ruler, Maharaja Gulab Singh, constructed stone stairs upto the temple. In 1925, the temple was electrified. The temple, besides a prominent hindu religious place, is of great archaeological importance. The temple commands a magnificent panoramic view of the Srinagar city.

Khanqah-e-Molla: The shrine of Shah-e-Hamdan or Khanqah-e-Moulla is one of the oldest muslim shrines in Kashmir situated on the bank of the river Jhelum in the old city. The shrine was originally constructed by Sultan Sikander (1389-1413 A.D) in memory of the muslim preacher, Mir Syed Ali Hamdani, who had earlier visited Kashmir and stayed here for meditation and preaching of Islam.

In 1480 A.D., the shrine was gutted in a devastating fire in the vicinity and the then ruler, Sultan Hassan Shah, purchased the adjacent land to expand its permises and reconstructed the shrine on the old edifice. The shrine was later demolished and reconstructed as a two storeyed structure in 1493 A.D. In 1731 A.D. the Khanqah was again destroyed in a fire and was reconstructed by Abul Barkat Khan. The shrine is revered and people throng daily to offer prayers and congregate in thousands on the death anniversary of the revered Mir Syed Ali Hamdani falling on the 6th of Zilhaj, the last month of muslim calander. Mir Syed Ali Hamdani was the torch-bearer of Islam in Kashmir

Jamia Masjid: It is one of the oldest and most spacious of all mosques in Kashmir, situated in the heart of city. The foundation of the mosque, an architectural wonder, was laid by Sultan Sikander in 1398 A.D.The master mason who supervised the construction, was requisitioned from Khurasan and the construction completed in 1402 A.D. The mosque was destroyed many times in fire, the first during the period of Hassan Shah in 1479 A.D. when, according to Shrivara, a pall of gloom descended on the city. The king ordered re-construction of the mosque. During the reign of Jahangir, the mosque was again gutted in a devastating fire that consumed about 12,000 houses in the city. Its reconstruction took 17 years. The reign of Aurangzeb saw the third destruction of the mosque due to fire. During the Sikh rule the muslims were not allowed into the mosque on the pretext that people were being instigated against the Government. The doors of the mosque were opened after 19 years in 1840 A.D. The Muslim Auqaf Trust took the custody of the mosque in 1947 and, subsequently, the birch-bark

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roof of the mosque was replaced by corrugated iron sheets. The area of the mosque is 384 ft.x 381ft. spacious enough for over thirty thousand people to offer prayers at a time.

Badshuhun Dumat: The tomb of the mother of Sultan Zain-Ul-Abideen (1420-70) popularly known as Badshah or the Great King, is a splendid representative piece of the Shahmiri architecture. The monument, situated on the right bank of the river Jehlum near Zaina Kadal, is considered the only one of its kind in and around Kashmir which, compared to the wooden structures of the Shahmiri period, is a wholly brick structure. The fifteenth century monument attracts many tourists, especially foreigners, who take photographs of the tomb and show keen interest in its architecture. The tomb, known to locals as Badshuhun Dumat, has a burial ground where many great people, including kings like Zain-ul-Abideen and Sultan Sikandar are resting in peace.

Hari Parbat Fort: Another historical monument of Srinagar is the Hari Parbat Fort constructed by the Afghan Governor, Atta Mohammad Khan (1808-10), on the top of the Hari Parbat or Koh-e-Maraan hill. The architecture of the Fort is similar to that of the forts in Central Asia. During the Dogra rule, artillery shells were periodically fired from the fort to give the public an idea of the time during a day. The Mughal Emperor, Akbar, founded Naagar Nagar city in the foot of the hillock and constructed a 28 ft. high wall, Naagar Nagar Qalai around the city, served as the Cantonement for the Mughal army. A temple of Goddess Sharika and the Mazar of a revered muslim saint Sheikh Hamza Makhdoom, adorn the hill where people of different faiths throng for spiritual peace.

Khir Bhawani Temple: Situated at Tullamula in the Srinagar district, it is an important hindu shrine. The temple is associated with the hindu goddess, Ragnya Devi. An annual festival is held here on Jesht Ashtami (May-June) when hindus visit the place in large numbers to offer prayers and seek the blessings of the diety. Devotees also throng on every Shukla Pakh Ashtami round the year and perform Hawans to please the Mother.

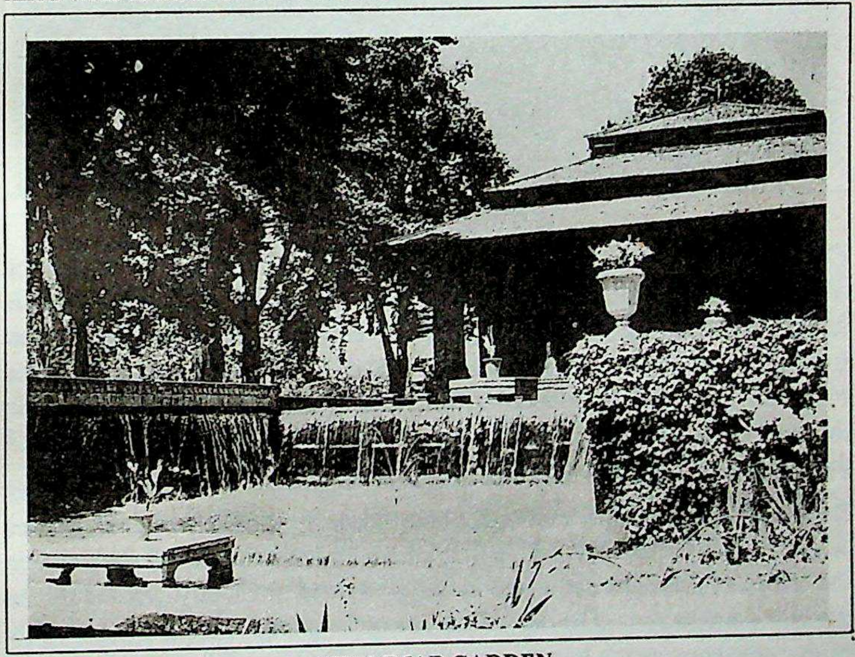
Surrounded by steams, the place abounds in Chinar trees in-and- around the compound Complex within which is a hexagonal Spring wherein diety of Goddess Ragyna is decorated in a small white marbled temple. The legend goes that Lord Rama worshipped Mother Ragyna during his exile and desired Hamuman ji to shift the seat of Mother after the expiry of exil period, who bought it to Shadipoa and was latter shifted to present site as per the wish of devine Mother Ragnya conveyed in dreem to one Pandit

Rughnath Gadroo, it is believed.

This historic temple of Kheer Bhawani was built by Maharaj Pratap Singh in 1912 and later renovated by Maharaja Hari Singh.

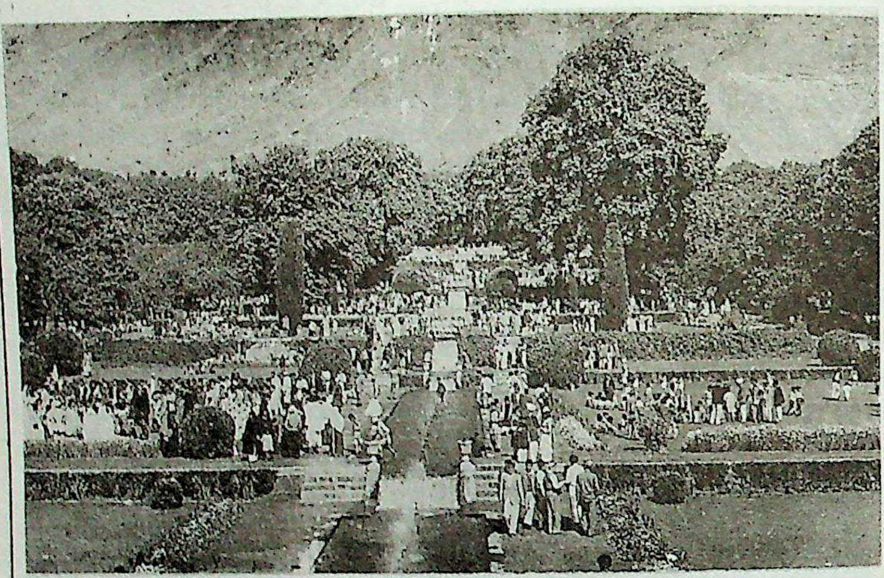
In addition, there are umpteen places of religious importance in Srinagar. These include the shrines of Dastgeer Sahib, Naqshband Sahib, Baha-ud-Din Sahib, Khawja Habib Ullah Nowsheri, Sheikh Dawood Batmalu Sahib, Gurdwara Chhati Padshahi, Ganpatyar Mandir, Zeth Aishwari temple and Protestant and Catholic churches,Rupa Bhawani Mandir,Somyar Temple and Resh Peer temple.

Shalimar Garden:The garden, 15 Kms from the city centre, was built by Emperor Jahangir for his beloved wife, Nur Jahan. The garden with four terraces is 539 by 182 meters and gets water from Harwan through a canal lined with fountains. The fourth terrace was once reserved for royal ladies.



SHALIMAR GARDEN

Nishat Garden: Queen Nur Jahan's brother, Asif Khan, laid the Garden in 1633 A.D. It is situated on the banks of the Dal Lake in the backdrop of the Zabarwan hills, 11 km. from the district headquarter of Srinagar. The garden commands a magnificent view of the lake.

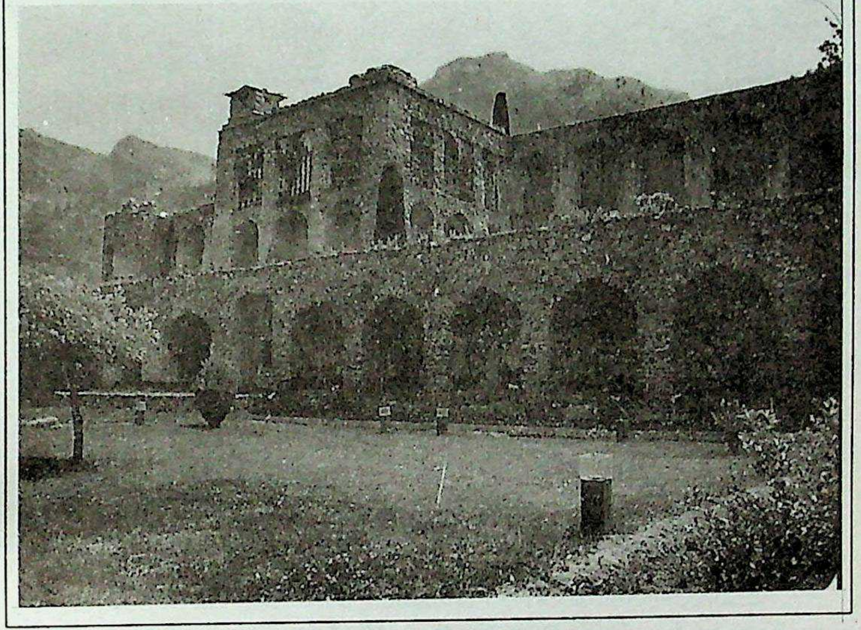


NISHAT GARDEN

Cheshma Shahi and Pari Mahal: Cheshma Shahi or the Royal Spring was laid by Shah Jahan in 1632 A.D. It is 9 km. from the city centre and is famous for a spring of refreshing digestive water. Two kilometres uphill from Cheshma Shahi is situated the Pari Mahal, a school of astrology founded by Prince Dara Shikoh, Emperor Shah Jahan's eldest son who was killed in the war of succession. The Cheshma Shahi-Pari Mahal area has been developed into a Tourist Village.

Dal Lake: The world famous water body described by Sir Walter Lawrence as the " Lake par-excellence", half a kilometer from the city, is the jewel in the crown of Kashmir eulogised by the poets and abudantly praised by the travellers and tourists. The lake of late has unfortunately shrunk considerably in size causing concern to environmentalists. The Government have chalked out an ambitious project to save the lake from extinction. The lake is 6x3 km divided by causeways into four parts, Gagribal, Lokut-Dal, Bod-Dal and Nagin. Two islands, Sona Lank and Ropa Lank, within the lake add to its beauty. Nagin is the most lovely part of the Dal Lake separated by a causeway.

Other places of tourist attraction include S.P.S. Museum, Nehru Park, 30-



PARI MAHAL

Hole Golf Course, Sonamarg glaciers, Dachigam Sanctuary the home of world famous Hangul, and the old city. A Shikara ride downstream Jehlum in the old city is a pleasant experience.

DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

Over the years, the size of the district plan for the district has been increasing every year, giving impetus to the pace of development. For 1997-98, the district has got plan outlay of Rs.33.46 crores which reflected an increase of 19% over previous year's outlay of Rs. 28.77crores.

Major thrust during the plan is on poverty alleviation programmes. Special attention is being paid for speedy completion of spill over works under PMRY.

In order to meet urges and aspiration of people at grass root level, block level plan formation has been initiated.

DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING

District Plan 1997-98

(Rs.in lakhs)

S.No.	Sector	Outlay	Expenditure (Provisional)
1.	Agriculture & Allied Services	577.95	493.69
2.	Rural Development	272.12	223.85
3.	Industries	153.22	155.82
4.	Communication	434.00	390.00
5.	Energy	50.00	50.00
6.	Social & General Services	1852.97	1590.66
7.	Others	6.00	6.89
	Total	**3346.26**	**2913.63**

AGRICULTURE

An allocation of Rs.35.94 lakhs had been made for development of argiculture during 1997-98, whereas RS.122.67 lakhs had been earmarked for T&V

schemes of this sector.

Major crops of the district are paddy and maize. Of the total cultivable area of about 51,000 hectares, 32,400 hectares are being covered under high yielding variety of crops. Paddy crops is cultivated in 13,100 hectares, yielding annual production of 52,000 metric tonnes, maize covers 4,600 hectares yielding 6,500 metric tonnes, oil seed is cultivated in over 11,000 hectares, producing 11,000 metric tonnes. Similarly, pulses are cultivated over 3700 hectares yielding annual production of 370 metric tonnes, while area under fodder production is 7700 hectares.

As a result of concerted efforts of Agriculture Department and adoption of scientific methods of cultivation and proper and timely application of fertilizers, the department has achieved 40 quintals of food production per hectare as compared to 33 quintals during 1987-88.

Emphasis is laid on vegetable cultivation as there is lot of potential for it. Nearly 5,000 hectares have been brought under vegetable cultivation. Improved seeds are being provided to farmers for increased production. Special attention is also being paid to boost honey production.

Efforts are also being made to popularize Zeera cultivation in the district. In Khanmoh and Wussan areas, Zeera seeds were distributed among farmers on subsidised rates for the purpose. Twenty demonstration plots were laid in the district. A centrally sponsored National Water Shed Development Project has been approved for Kangan. Mini tractors were given to small and marginal farmers on 50 per cent subsidy. Twenty irrigation pumps have been allotted for distribution to vegetable growers to give boost to vegetable production in rural areas like Kangan, Lar and also in other non-traditional vegetable growing areas.

Preduman K. Joseph Dhar
M.A. (Eng., Pol. Sc., His, Edu.)
B.Ed; LLB.

HORTICULTURE

A comprehensive zonalisation plan has been formulated for horticulture activities. Plant material for high density plantation was provided. The Horticulture hectares were brought under fruit cultivation in hilly and kandi areas. For this purpose, orchardists were provided plant and fencing material on subsidized rates. The Horticulture department is taking steps to ensure that fruit growers are provided quality plant material. For this purpose departmental nurseries are being developed. A fruit preservation and utilization extension centre is also functioning at Lal Mandi, where people are trained in converting fruit and vegetables into various by-products.

For development of this sector, an outlay of Rs.36.63 lakhs had been made under district plan for 1997-98.

As many as 9917 hectares have been covered under orchard in the district and annual fruit production has crossed 34,209 metric tonnes. Apple is commercially most important followed by other kinds like walnut, almonds, cherry, grapes and peaches etc.

"Development of horticulture is Dry Land Areas" is the main programme for which 100 hectares of land is targetted to be covered.

On construction side, Rs.9.90 lakhs are being utilized for completion of chain link fencing at Zakoora, Rs.4.30 lakhs for reconstruction of 3 gutted departmental buildings, Rs.2 lakhs for office-cum-store and Rs.1.85 lakhs for construction of Mali-cum-store at tehsilbagh, Ganderbal.

During 1996-97 the department distributed high density 10,000 apple plants Indo-Balgarian farm, Zakoora among orchadists on subcidized rates. Besides, 64 orchardists were provided 43 foot pumps and 21 power sprayers. As many as 500 poly green houses were set up at different places in the district.

Education

Education is one of the important sectors which has suffered due to militancy. Revival of education is getting State Government's special attention. The menace of copying which has crept into the education system in the last 8 years, has been effectively checked. This has been taken up as a major challenge by the Government. The teaching days in the schools have improved substantially and credibility of examination system has been restored. There is a network of 722 educational institutions in the district, which includ 433 primary schools, 200 middle, 69 High and 20 Higher Secondary schools. Besides 7 Degree Colleges, 3 professinal colleges and 2 universities are also functioning in the district.

As per statistical data, 1.73,537 students are on roll in schools, including 97,251 boys and 76,286 girls. The district has achieved 33.90% literacy rate so far, 41.97 % among boys and 25.66% in respect of girls.

An amount of Rs.6.14 crores had been earmed for the promotion of this sector in 1997-98.

HEALTH

Restoration of health services and upgrading facilities is among the priorities of the Government. The district has a network of 129 health institutions operating in the district, which include 680-bed SMHS Hospital, 525-bed Institute of Medical Sciences, Soura, 500-bed Lal Ded Memorial Hospital for Women, 350-bed Chest Diseases Hospital, 175-bed Psychiatric diseases Hospital, 150-bed Bone and Joints Surgery Hospital. 100-bed Mobile Chitranjan Dass Hospital,110-bed Jawahar Lal Nehru Memorial Hospital, nearly 60 other health centres, 69 allopathic and unani dispensaries, 18 Medical aid Centres, Mobile Units, Leprosy Control Units and Sub-Centres and 90 Family Planning Centres.

Under IPP, 14 sub-health centres are being set up by the Rural Development Department which are at different stages of completion.

In 1997-98 as amount of Rs.2.61 crores had been emarked under health sector in the district.

POWER

The district has recorded hundred per cent electrification. Efforts are on to ensure proper distribution of electricity and augumentation of the existing facilities. The old transformers are being replaced by new high power capacity ones. At present work is apace on 105 MWs Upper Sindh Hydel Project Kangan.The major project is the Zainakote Grid Station, the work on which was completed expeditiously to avail power from northern grid.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

As many as 42 schemes were under execution during 1996-97. Out of these 15 such schemes were completely, remaining 27 schemes are at different stages of executions.

Upto September,1997 blacktoping was completed on 11.25 Kms road length, Taracadum on 8.95 Kms and shingling on 5.85 Kms.

Rs.4.34 crores had been set apart on execution of various development schemes under this sector during 1997-98.

In 1997-98, 56 new schemes and 27 spill over schemes are under implementation. New schemes include construction of footbridge and a park at Aabi Nowpora. As many as 16 schemes will be completed soon. The notable achievement is the commissioning of Safakadal bridge in Srinagar by the Chief Minister, Dr. Farooq Abdullah in December, 1997.

Total road length in the district is 1296 kms, out of this 396 Kms are being maintained by PWD.

Reconstruction of damaged bridges was given priority by Farooq Government. As a result, three major bridges namely Safakadal, Nowakadal and Ashai bagh bridges linking the residents of these areas with the main city were completed, while as Zainakadal and Aalikadal bridges are at advance stage of completion. The construction of these five bridges involved over Rs.18.95 crores.

DAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Dal Lake is the world famous water body which is described by Sir Walter Lawrence as the "Lake par-excellence". It is the jewel in the crown of Kashmir eulogised by the poets and abundantly praised by the travellers and tourists. The lake, has shruk in size causing concern to the Government and environmentalist. In order to restore its pristine glory and save it from extinction, the State Government has formulated an ambitious plan. For this purpose, the Central Government has agreed to provide Rs.3331 crores, out of which Rs.25 crores will be immediately spent for rehabilitation of affected families. Among other things the plan envisages settlement of affected families living in and around Dal Lake.

DAL LAKE

The implementation of Dal Development Project would be done in a phased manner. A team of experts from Austria visited the Valley and suggested some ways for preservation of Dal lake. Expertise and technical know-how is also being sought from Japan.

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING

PHE is one of the important and major sectors for development of the district. During 1997-98 of Rs.5.28 crores were planned to be utilized.

175 census villages of the district have been brought under potable drinking water through pipes. But there is a lot to be done by way of updating, stablisation and augmentation of sources and construction of filteration plants.

The department is working on two aspects in respect of providing potable water, one pertains to rural areas of the district and other peripharial areas in and around Srinagar city.

Under Rural Water Supply Programme, 31 schemes had been spilled over to 1997-98, out of which 11 schemes are being completed soon. Besides,19 new schemes were being executed at an estimated cost of Rs.2.68 crore in rural areas during 1997-98.

Whereas in peripharial areas 43 schemes are in progress out of which 23 schemes are proposed for completion by 1998. Meanwhile,15 new such schems at an estimated cost of Rs.1.71 crores under execution.

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URBAN DEVELOPMENT

A master plan for Srinagar was formulated in 1973-74 at an estimated cost of Rs.67.35 crores. Rs. 40.27 crores were spent by the end of March 1992. An additional amount of Rs.20 crores have been allotted during the 8th Five Year Plan for the project, out of which Rs. 13.57 crores were incurred. The Project has enabled raising system capacity from the pre-project level of 14.05 MGD to 45.55 MGD. The capacity is derived from four treatment plants at Nishat, Alusteng, Doodhganga and Rangil with production capacity of 15 MGD, 6.80 MGD, 3.75 MGD and 20 MGD respectively. The construction of two additional treatment plants at Doodhganga and Pokhribal with an installed capacity of 4.00 MGD each has raised the production level to 53.55 MGD.

Master Plan, Phase II has been formulated at an estimated cost of Rs.

266.18 crores with the capacity of adding 24 MGD of water to the system capacity.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Under this sector Rs.38 lakhs had to be utilised during 1997-98.

As per census of 1992 as many as 30,170 families of the district were found living below poverty line. These families are being covered under the Integrated Rural Development Programme.

During 1996-97, 527 such families were assisted under IRDP by setting up income generating units of Sheep, Dairy, Buffallow, Shawls, Shoe making, House cast, Tea stalls, tailoring etc. A target to set up 1713 income generating units has been formulated for 1996-97. For this purpose a loan of Rs.1.50 crores is being advanced and Government will provide a subsidy of Rs.78.57 lakhs to the beneficiaries. On the other hand banks have fixed a target to establish 1035 units against official target of 1713 units. So far 1359 such units have been sponsored to the banks for loan including 316 back-log units out of which 142 units have been established sofar.

Under Jawahar Rozgar Yojna, over Rs. 107.35 lakhs had been made available

REVENUE COMPLEX, SRINAGAR

for execution of 211 works. These works would generate 2 lakh mandays work. Besides, 3.22 lakh mandays work were expected to be generated under Employment Assurance Scheme.

Execution on 39 workds was completed and pace of work is in progress on rest of 1435 works undertaken for execution during the 1997-98. Similarly under "Million Wells Scheme" two works have been completed.

SELF EMPLOYMENT SCHEME

A sum of Rs.2.52 crores had been set apart for this sector. Under PMRY, Rs. 33.75 lakhs had been kept reserve with a target to provide Employment and apart professional training to eight hundred youth.

SOCIAL WELFARE

A provision of Rs.8.12 lakhs had been made for exucution of various development schemes during 1997-98.

During 1997-98, 500 camps of rural women were organised besides, 177 physically handicaped students were provided scholarships involving Rs.30,000. Moreover, 35 prosthetic aid cases were proposed to be settled with a provision limit of Rs.30,000.

RURAL SANITATION PROGRAMME

Nine villages had been approved for Rural Sanitation Programme for 1997-98. These include one village from Srinagar block, six villages from Ganderbal and one each from Lar and Kangan blocks. During 1996-97, 536 sanitary units, 4 institutional sanitary units, 75 cattle platforms, 100 soak pits and one community garbage pit were constructed. Lanes and drains stretching over a cummulative length of 9 kms were also constructed under the scheme.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Cattle population of the district has gone up to 1.40 lakh including 85000 jersy cows. Milk production has reached 34000 metric tons per annum. The district has a network of 98 institutions including 48 frozen semen centres, 7 poultry extension centres, one poultry farm at Kangan, 30 vaternary centres, 8 first-aid centres, one artificial breeding station, one clinical laboratory and 2 mobile dispensaries.

For 1997-98 a provision of Rs.79.70 lakhs had been made for this sector.

5 more veternary centres were being opened in the district in 1997-98 wherein frozen semen facilities had to be made available with a view to boost milk production. Moreover,11 centres running on internal adjustment have been regularised.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY

Sheep population has reached 1.33 lakh including 85000 cross breed in the district. 4.25 Kgs of mutton production and 1.82 lakh Kgs of wool have been collected in the district.

A network of 30 sheep extension centres and 5 mobile centres are functional in the district.4 more sheep centres are being opened soon.

Rs.17.31 lakh had to be incurred on the promotion of this sector during the year.

SOCIAL FORESTRY

In order to improve ecology and environment of Srinagar district, a massive plantation programme has been undertaken under this sector. As many as 1.86 lakh saplings will be planted under various schemes namely Village Woodlot, Strip Plantation, Institutional plantation and pasture development etc during the year.

Rs.44.00 lakh have been kept apart for the Social Forestry for 1997-98.

FOREST

Under rehabilitation, an area of 15,000 rfts is being fenced and 120 lakh plants will be planted. Besides, 424 cum RDSM checkdams are being constructed/repaired. Moreover, 9 kmts of inspection paths are being constructed under communication scheme. In addition, fencing of 26000 Rft and plantation of 1.75 lakh plants in specified areas are under execution.Rs.19.56 crores had been earmarked for forestry.

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COMPERATIVE STATEMENT OF YEAR WISE EXPENDITURE (IN LAKH)

Sector	Expdt. 92-93	Expdt. 93-94	Expdt. 94-95	Expdt. 95-96	Outlay 96-97	Expdt. 96-97	Expdt. 92-97
Agriculture & Allied Service	303.35	293.87	386.43	407.72	454.40	493.11	1884.48
Rural Dev.	63.78	65.28	96.23	163.94	191.80	179.09	568.32
Industries	92.79	88.33	96.92	108.91	117.04	133.57	520.52
Communication.	144.18	175.22	217.75	245.41	317.10	420.18	1202.74
Energy	39.08	13.80	100.00	172.00	141.00	140.96	465.84
Social & Gen.Services	898.40	10015.64	1050.69	1224.06	1652.56	1551.15	5729.94
Others	-	1.50	2.07	3.06	3.24	3.34	9.96
Total:-	**1541.58**	**1643.64**	**1950.09**	**2325.09**	**2877.14**	**10381.80**	**2921.40**

-Grant

WHO'S WHO

Telephone Nos.

	Office	Residence
MLAs/MLCs		
Mohd.Syed Akhoon	452598	
Sadiq Ali	453018	
Mobarik Ahmed Gul	452348	
Mohd. Shafi Bhat	31367	
Ghulam Mohd. Bhawan	31721	
MEDIA HEADS		
Station Director Radio Kashmir, Mr. Ashraf Sahil, Srinagar	452003	452003
Mr.Siraj-ud-Din Qurashi, St.Director Doordarshan, Srinagar	452018	452009
Mr.A.K.Handoo,New Editor.AIR	452019	
Mr.B.A.Malik,News Editor,Doordarshan	452206	
Mr.Ajit Singh,Spl.Corrpdt.AIR,Sgr	452377	
Mr.Farooq Ahmed Renzu, DDI,Kashmir	452229/479817	
MEDIA PERSONS		
Mr.Altaf Hussain,The Times of India	452595	
Mr. Mukhtar Ahmad,CNN Telegraph	452162	
Mr.Yousuf Jameel, Asian Age	452217	
Mr.Zafar Meraj, Muslim	452217	
Ms.Asha Khoosa, Indian Express	452661	
Mr.George Joseph, BITV	452661	
Mr.Arun Joshi, Hindustan Times	452760	
Mr. Ehsan Fazili,Tribune	471230	
Mr.Nizam-ud-Din, News Time	452072	

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Mr.Rashid Ahmed, Pioneer	452824
Mr.Zahoor Malik, Kashmir Times	452024
Mr.Ahmed Ali Fayaz, Excelsior	452666
Mr.Sujat Bukhari, Hindu	
Mr.Masood Hussai, Blitz	
Mr.Tahir Mohi-Ud-Din, Chattan	452156
Mr.B.A. Sofi, UNI,	452071
Mr.A.M. Sofi, PTI,	452071
Mr. Fayaz Kaloo,The Greater Kashmir	474339
Mr.Gh.Hassan Kaloo, Mirror	452831
Mr.Qaser Mirza, AP	430809
Mr.Imdad Saqi, D.P.A	452154
Mr. Sheikh Mushtaq,Reuters	
Mr. Rashid Ahmed, Poineer	452824
Mr.Surender Singh Oberoi, AFP	473598
Mr.Sona Ullah Bhat,Daily Aftab	452039
Mr.G.M.Sofi, Daily Srinagar Times	452420
Mr.Jeelani Qadri, Afaq	452028
Mr.Manzoor Anjum,Daily Uqaab	476004
Mr.Ashraf Shaban, Daily Alsafa	452043
Mr.Abdul Rashid Shah, Nada-i-Mashriq	452471
Mr.Nazir Ahmed,Subh-i-Kashmir	478458
Mr.Rashid Rahi, CNN	455425

Mr.Abdul Qayoom, Minister for Education, Chairman, DDB, Srinagar.	468905	431625

IMPORTANT POLITICAL LEADERS & OTHERS

Mr. Umar Farooq, M. P.

Mufti Mohd Sayeed, M. P.
& Former Union Minister

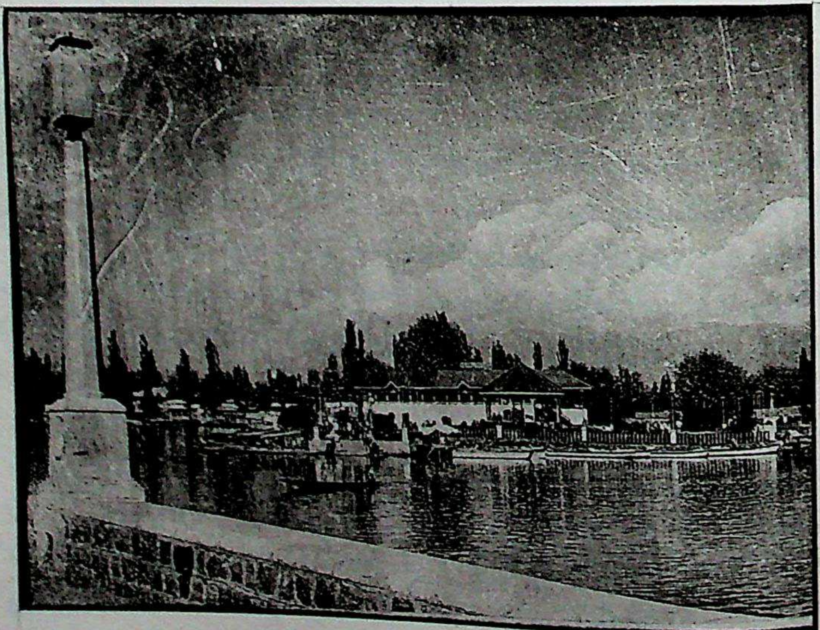
Prof. Saif-u-Din Soz, M. P.
& Former Union Minister
Prof.C.L.Gupta, MP, Udhampur.

Mr.Vaid Vaishno Dutt, MP, Jammu

Aga Syed Mohammad Hussain,
MP, Ladakh

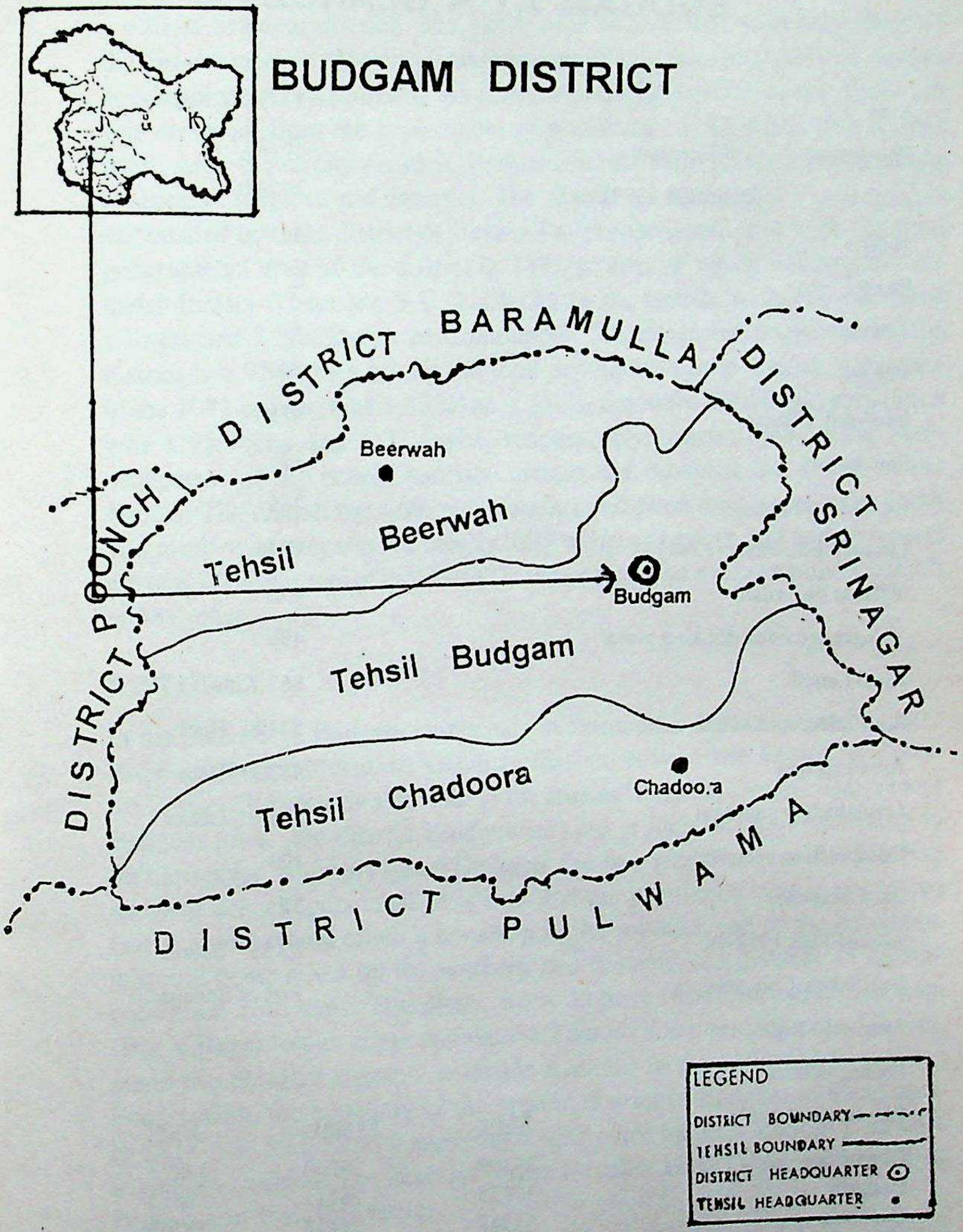
Mr.Sharief-ud-Din Shariq, MP,
Raj Sabha

Khanpo Rinpochey, MP, Raj Sabha



Nehru Park

BUDGAM DISTRICT


J
G
K
DISTRICT BARAMULLA
DISTRICT SRINAGAR
DISTRICT POONCH
DISTRICT PULWAMA
Beerwah
Tehsil Beerwah
Budgam
Tehsil Budgam
Chadoora
Tehsil Chadoora
LEGEND
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
TEHSIL BOUNDARY
DISTRICT HEADQUARTER ⊙
TEHSIL HEADQUARTER •

BUDGAM AT A GLANCE

Area		1371 Sq. Kms.
Population	(1981 census)	367262
	(Projected 1991)	497346
Tehsils		3
Blocks		8
Towns		1
Villages		496
Inhabited villages		475
Panchayats		196
Ed. Institutions		764
Literacy percentage(1981)		17.86
Villages Electrified		492
Villages provided drinking water		490
Road Length		867 Kms
Area under cultivation		53400 Hect.
Area irrigated		31700 Hect.
Live-stock population		336 Lakhs
Co-operative societies		129
Bank branches		32
Annual Plan 1997-98		33.55 Crores
Lok Sabha Constituency		Part of Srinagar.
Assembly Segments		5
Polling booths		254

Electorate(1998)	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Chadoora	24309	20564	44873
Budgam	30738	28115	58853
Beerwah	34347	29418	63765
Khan Sahib	28331	24291	52622
Charar-i-Sharief	31079	25664	56743
Total	**146804**	**130052**	**276856**

The Badgam district came into existence in 1979-80, prior to which it was a part of Srinagar district. The bifurcation was in tune with the efforts of the Government to take to all the corners of the State the fruits of speedy development. Consequently, Badgam, alongwith Pulwama and Kupwara was elevated, from the consitituent of a district, to the status of a district itself. After the re-organisation, Badgam district was formed of three tehsils Badgam, Chadoora and Beerwa. The district comprising 496 villages, is surrounded by three district of Baramulla, Pulwama and Srinagar. The total geographical area of the district is 1371 sq.kms of which 481 sq kms are under forests. There are 8 C.D. Blocks in the district with 484 inhabited villages and 5 Notified Area Committees. The projected population of the district is 4.97 lakhs while as the total population of the district, according to the 1981 census, was 3.67 lakhs. Of this, the male and female population was 1.95 lakhs and 1.72 lakhs, respectively. Agriculture is the main occupation of the people and rice, maize and oil-seeds are grown in the district. The district has both mountainous and plain topography. The south and south-western parts are mostly hilly whereas eastern and northern parts are plain. The climate of the district is temperate. The average annual rainfall is 585 mms.

HISTORY

In the olden days Badgam was a part of Baramulla district when Srinagar itself was a constituent of Anantnag district. It was then known as Tehsil Sri Pratap. Old records also refer to the area as 'Pargana Deesu'. The present Badgam town (the district headquarter) has a long history. According to the chronicler, Khawaja Azam Dedmari, the area was known as Deedmarbag and was densely populated. It is said that the population was so congested that if a goat would climb a housetop in the southern end of the habitation it would come down on the northern end covering the distance of closely connected housetops. The place, many believe, owes its name, Badgam (Big Village) to this dense population. Famous warrier, Mehmood Ghazni, made two abortive attempts to invade Kashmir in the 11th century through Poonch Gali, the boundary of the present district of Badgam in Khag area. In 1814 A.D Sikh ruler, Ranjit Singh, also made his first attempt from here to capture Kashmir. The famous Chinese traveller,Hien Tsiang,while visiting Poonch,also took this route.

One of the tallest personalities of Kashmir, Sheikh Noor-ud-Din popularly known as Alamdar-e-Kashmir, has travelled much in the present Badgam district and meditated at several places here. His resting place at Chrar-e-

Shrief is also situated in the district. A prominent village, Nasrullah Pora, is named after one of his distinguished disciples, Baba Nasir.

The tehsil of Chadoora has also a rich history. The famous Malik Hyder belonged to this place. Malik was a very influential landlord and a close friend of Emperor Jahangir. The emperor too reposed great trust in him. It is said that after the death of her first husband, Nur Jehan (Jahangir's wife) was given in Malik's custody by the Emperor before he finally married her and the women became powerful enough to influence the decisions of the State. Malik also chronicled the history of Kashmir. He was honoured and rewarded by the Mughals for his talents. Jahangir has eloquently praised the beauty of Chadoora and mentioned in his Tuzk-e-Jahangiri, about a tree which would tremble all over if only a branch of it was pulled. The tree, he says was known as Halthal. There is no such tree present in the area or anywhere else but going by the description of the emperor, it seems that it must have been a delight to see the tree. At Chadoora there is also situated the grave of Mir Shams-ud-Din Iraqi, a Shiete theologist. The counsellor of the last native ruler of Kashmir, Yusuf Shah Chak and his son, Yakum Chak's tutor, Ali Dar, also belonged to this area. The present Chadoora town was once a kareva Jahangir used to visit this place for hunting. He rechristained the place as Noorabad after his beloved wife but the name was not popular, upon which the king ordered reversion to its old name. Chadoora held a place of prominence during the Mughal period. The Mughals had constructed some buildings here including a small palace and an ammunition depot.

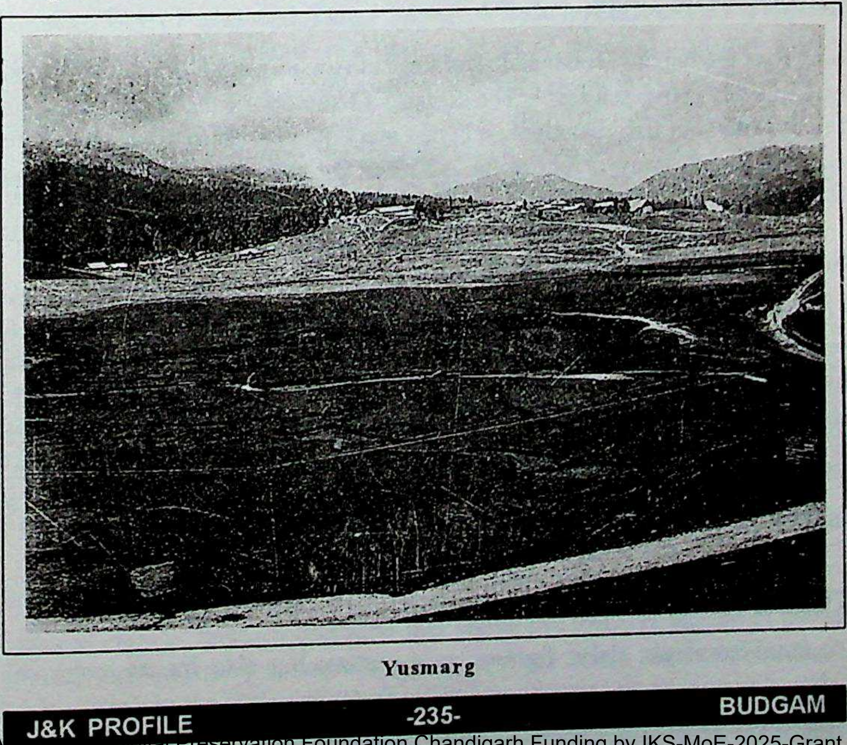
Another block of the district, Beerwah, was formerly known as Behroop after a famous spring of the same name. Beerwah is thought to be the corrupted form of Behroop. Here is situated a cave about which it is believed that the famous Shivite philospher, Abhinav Gupt, alongwith some of his associates, entered in it sometime between 10th and 11th century A.D and did not return. In 1760 A.D the Durrani Governor, Badal Khan Khatak, constructed a fortress in Beerwah which was repaired in 1801 A.D by Abdullah Khan. In 1884 A.D the fortress was destroyed in a severe earthquake. Subsequently, the remains of the fortress also disappeared.

Prominent Aga family of Kashmir belongs to Badgam. According to an account, a famous Hakeem namely Syed Hyder came here to settle down about 150 years ago. He was pious and god fearing man. Many people came to him for spiritual guidance. After Hyder's death his son, Aga Syed Mehdi, donned the mantle of his father. He studied religion in Najaf (Iraq).

The present Aga Sahab the spiritual leader of the Shias, is a decendent of Aga Syed Mehdi. The family has produced a great religious man in Aga Syed Yusuf Al-Mousavi, who died in 1982. The main market in Badgam town is named after him. The village of Kanihama, the home of famous Kani Shawl, was an important trade centre during the Dogra rule. The idols of Raja Beerwa's period are found in Beerwah tehsil pointing to the Shivite influence on the area. Many areas of the Badgam district had, in the ancient days, been under the influence of Buddhism. These include Ishgan and Isshkota. Khag block in the district is a place of enchanting beauty. Badgam district has produced many distinguished poets and writers of Kashmiri language. Of these, more famous include Shamas Fakir and Samad Mir, the pioneers of spiritual Kashmiri poetry (Sufiana Shairee). Abdul Ahad Azad, revolutionary poet of Kashmir who also penned the history of Kashmiri literature and Gulam Nabi Dilsoz, a well known romantic poet. Among the living literary personalities are Gulam Nabi Gowhar, novelist and Moti Lal Saqi, poet, scholar and critic.

PLACES OF INTEREST

Badgam district has many places of tourist attraction where one finds himself



Yusmarg

at peace and in close union with the nature. It is a feast to the eyes to visit these places. These include:

YUS MARG

One of the captivating meadows of Kashmir, Yusmarg is situated 50 kms in south-west of Srinagar at an elevation of 7500 ft above sea level. Yusmarg is not just a meadow but, in fact, is a cluster of meadows surrounded by magnificent trees in the lap of Pir Panjal mountains. The place is simple bewitching where one is lost in nature and awed with its beauty. The place is connected by road from Srinagar via Charar-e-Sharief. Pony riding in the meadows here is a tourist delight.

NIL NAG

It is a beautiful blue water lake, situated 4 kms down-hill from Yusmarg, connected by a bridle path through dense forests. The place is a wonderful picnic spot where tourists have heartful of enjoyment with nature. Nil Nag, is also approachable from Nowgam village. The 13 kms uphill journey makes a grand drive.

MOUNT TUTAKOTI

Source of the famous Doodganda stream, Tutakoti mountain is at an elevation of 15,500 ft above sea level. The stream, a tributory of the river Jhelum is famous for trout fish. Doodganga is just one km away from Yusmarg where one can go on pony or enjoy the environs by convering the distance on foot.

SANG-E-SAFED (WHIE ROCKS)

10 kms uphill from Yusmarg, one can go trekking to this place which serves as the base for Mount Tutakoti. Enroute, there are many meadows like Liddermar, where one could have a night halt. Sang-e-Safed is an oval-shaped meadow bisected by the Doodganga stream. Mornings and evenings are very refreshing here. Another enchanting meadow in the area is Haigin, 4 kms from Yusmarg, Surrounded by dense pine forests, the place is a famous picnic spot.

TOSA MAIDAN

Tosamaidan is not only famous as a pasture but also for its historical background. Bounded by dense forests, it is situated about 10 kms from Khag in the mountains of the Himalyan range. After crossing the upper mountain reaches of Drang, Zagokhora and other small villages, one enters the pasture of Tosamaidan. It is one of those pastures which the shepherds of other countries also used in ancient times. The Mughals used to go to Poonch through this route. It is said that they had constructed a seven storeyed building "Dam Dam" here. The Basmai Gali (13,000 ft.) is the pass which leads into Tosamaidan. This pass was deemed to be the safest, easiest and nearest to reach Punjab in yester-years. From here a path also leads to Nil Nag.

Tosamaidan is the largest pasture in its surrounding areas. 3 miles in length and 1.3/4 miles in width. Sky touching Deodars fence this pasture presenting a view of "green carpet" during winter. During summer, the camps of Gujjars and shepherds are seen here and there in the pasture presenting a wounderful atmosphere. Fragrance of wild flowers refreshes the environment.

PEHJAN

To reach this alpine pasture, one has to cross through the green slopes of Donwar, Brari Pather and Yanga Pather. A little higher from these slopes, the whole place is covered with various kinds of asters and several plants of saussuera lappa (Kuth). Immediately after this, the area of "Rachi Parhan" (pasture of Parhan)starts. In clear sky, view of the area is always magnificent. One can view the famous Wular Lake from here which looks like a silver sheet. One can also enjoy the most charming view of one of the highest peaks, the Nanga Parbat (26,696 ft), from here.

NAKWAER PAL

Before Pehjan, there is the famous 14,000 ft. high Nakwear Pal (the nostrile rock) on the way. It is the highest peak of this range. About this famous rock it is said that when Kashmir Valley was a lake (Sati Sar), the boats used to be anchored in this rock. Today there is an iron hook within it (Ded Bal), also known as (Lal Khanen Gher). Here shepherds and gujjars come from adjacent villages with their livestock.

KHAG

Situated eight to fourteen thousand feet above sea level, in the lap of dense woods, surrounded by mountains whose average height touches 17,000 ft. Khang block in the Beerwah tehsil of Badgam district, is a place of breath-

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taking beauty in the south-west Kashmir. The area is rich in green pastures where, with the onset of summer, the carvans of nomad Bakerwals arrive alongwith their cattle to graze them in the meadows. The atmosphere turns romantic when a shepherd, while guarding his herd of sheep, plays flute and fills the air with magic that transports a person to an entirely different world. One has to go through the experience to believe it. During early winters, these nomads and their cattle vacant these pastures to move, through mountain pases, to warm places before the area is covered with a thick white blanket of snow. During the winter area wears a long silence, disturbed occassionally, by the cry of a winter bird. The return of summer, however, simply transforms the place into a dreamland.

SPRINGS

Across the length and breadth of the district there are many springs. In Khag block alone, there are atleast 30 springs of various sizes providing fresh water round the year. However, during the summer, the number increases to over 50. For this reason, the area could as well be called "The Land of Springs". Such of these, as are distinct and historically important are the following:-

SUT HARAN

A little away from the famous meadow of Tosamaidan and close to the Line of Actual Control in the midst of thick forests, is situated this enchanting spring. The legend has it that during his 12 year long exile (Vanvas) Ram Chander passed through these woods and stayed here alongwith Lakishman and Sita. Sita it is said, would bathe in the spring which consequently got its name from her as Sita Haran. The name got later corrupted to "Sut Haran". Close to the spring is a rock which, according to the legend, was used by Sita to sit on. The spring is also said to be the origin of a small lake. Tosamaidan Sar, in the centre of the Tosamaidan meadow. The water of the spring is as sweet in taste as bewitching to the eye.

NARA NAG

Nara Nag spring is also known as Narain Nag. The spring is close to the Khag village. The origin of the spring is believed to be the Tossamaidan lake whose water, after flowing several miles under the soil, resurfaces in the form of the Nara Nag. It is said that long ago an ascetic was once going through this place. He was carrying a bag- full of sheep dung which fell from his hand into the lake. Several days later, when he reached this place

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in Khag, he saw the dung floating on the surface of the Nara Nag. To convince himself, the ascetic returned to Tosamaidan and this time sprinkled some turmeric powder into the lake. A couple of days later, the water in the Nara Nag carried a tingle of turmeric colour.

SUKH NAG

Of the many round-the-year-flowing springs, the Sukh Nag, originally Sokha Nag (the spring of solace) is the fountainhead of the Ahij brook. Flowing through the mountain terrain, the spring water transforms into a 20 ft high roaring waterfall at Kanj Zubji, few miles from Tossamaidan, before mingling with other small streams to form the Ahij brook. Onwards the Ahij is further divided into many steams, like Mala Kol, Lar Kol and Sona Maen Kol, irrigating many villages of Beerwah tehsil.

PUSHKAR NAG

Pushkar Nag is in the east of Poshkar village between Khag and Ferozpora. This historical spring is surrounded by several villages on its three sides while it flows to the east. The Spring owes its name to the village of its origin. It is said that during the month of Sawan, Kashmir Pandits would offer prayers known as Divai Paath here and the devotees would take a dip in the spring. The spring finds a mention in the chronicle, Neelamat Purana, according to which a devotee was spiritually as much benefited by taking a dip in the spring as by a night-long recitation of the Vadas.

GANDHAK NAG

This is a spring in Darang Khaipora village of Khag block with sulphur contents in its water. Hence the name Ghandak Nag. People with skin ailments take a bath in the spring and are said to get cured. The curative properties of its water make the Ghandak Nag very significant.

MOUNTAIN STREAMS

Amid lush forests, several montain streams flow through the district from Badran to Sat Haran. Of these, the famous are Mala Kol, Lear Kol, Ahij Kol, Laen, Zaen, Mean and Sona Mean. The Ahij, Laen and Sona Maen have the common fountainhead in Sukhnag. Mala Kol is also known as the "deaf and dumb stream". Legend has it that when a saint, Syed Taj-ud-Din, arrived in Khag, the Mala Kol silently followed him from Sukh Nag to Sikandarpora.

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The stream continues to flow with calm even when it is briming. On the other hand, the Laen Kol is known to be making a roaring march with much less discharge of water. Local elders have interesting stories to say about the streams of the area. According to them the streams of Laen Zean and Maen are three sisters. The Ahij and Male Kol embrace the Jhelum after marching through Khag and other villages of Badgam district. Besides, Shaliganga Nallah, Doodganga Nallah, Ferozpora Nallah and Flood Spill Channel also flow through the district.

SHRINES

The saints, the ascetics and the recluse have always been attracted to this land of enormous beauty. The secluded yet enchanting environs of the area were favourite spots of these men of God to meditate and be one with Him. Indifferent to the materialistic world and away from the hustle and bustle of the cities, various suffies and saints have attained spiritual enlightment in this area. Their traces are found today in the form of tombs, shrines and other sacred places. While visiting these places, one feels at peace with oneself with a sense of closeness to the Almighty. Some of these shrines with historical and religious significance include:-

Charar-e-Sharief

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THE TOMB OF SHEIKH NOOR-UD-DIN

The tomb of Sheikh Noor-ud-Din Rishi, popularly known as Almadar-e-Kashmir (the Flag Bearer of Kashmir), is situated 28 kms in the south-west of Srinagar at Charar-e-Sharief. The land where the shrine is situated belonged to Sangram Dar, a desciple of the Sheikh, who had constructed a mosque there. The Sheikh would offer his Friday prayers in the mosque. According to the legend after death of the Sheikh, his coffin, after flying some distance, descened on the ground at the site of the shrine where he was laid to rest.The then ruler of Kashmir, Zain-ul-Abideen (1420-70 A.D) constructed a shrine on the burial site. The shrine was partly gutted during the period of the Chaks whereupon Yaqoob Chak ordered its repair. The Afgan Governor, Atta Mohammad Khan, reconstructed the shrine in the beginning of the 19th century. Extensions and levelling of the compound was made during the time of Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad (1953-63 A.D). On the 600th birth anniversary of Sheikh Noor-ud-Din in 1979, the J&K Academy of Art,Culture and Languages installed an inscription stone at the Mazar site.

Sheikh Noor-ud-Din is one of the tallest Kashmiri saints and the originator of the Rishi order in Kashmir. The Sheikh was born in village of Kaimoh(Kulgam) in the 14th century A.D. His ancestors belonged to Kishtwar. His father got converted to Islam at the hands of a renowned saint, Syed Hussain Simnani. Sheikh Noor-ud-Din was not a wordly man. From his childhood, he was a pious soul who travelled throughout the Valley to spread the message obtained from his religion, Islam. He meditated for 12 years in a cave. During his lifetime he became a legend and a popular religious figure. On his demise, Sultan Zain-ul-Abideen, personally attended the funeral. Four centuries after Sheikh's death, Afghan Governor, Atta Mohammad Khan, issued coins in his name. The renowned saint, Sheikh Hamzah Mukhdoom, would visit the shrine barefooted as a mark of reverence. Known as Sheikh-ul-Alam also, the Sheikh, is the patron saint of Kashmir whose mosoleum is thronged by devotees from all over the Valley. Many of his worthy desciples, including Baba Nasr-ud-Din, also lay burried here. Sheikh's poetry, commonly believed to be the Quran in Kashmiri verse, is popular among the locals. His peotry revolves round the oneness of God, temporary status of the world and underscoring the importance of good deeds. The shrine, alongwith the adjacent Khanqah, was gutted in a devastating fire in 1995 that converted the Charar-e-Sharief town into a heap of rubble. A makeshift shrine has been erected and the Muslim Auqaf Trust has undertaken construction of the new shrine.

THE SHRINE OF KHAN SAHAB

Situated in Khan Sahab block of the district, the shrine is associated with a famous saint Hazrat Saleh Khan who belonged to the village Pakhla (now in Pakistan) and came here in the 16th century alongwith his father, Islam Sahab. On the day of the birth of his son' it is said, 99 saints visited the house of Ismail Sahab to see the new born. At the age of 5, his uncle, an influential man of the area, wanted to adopt Saleh Khan but Ismail Sahab would not agree. When the former exerted pressure, Ismail Sahab took his son along and travelled on foot to Kashmir. On way, Syed Saleh Khan met the famous saint Bu Ali. Syed Saleh's father took his son to Baba Naseen-ud-Din Gazi, a well known saint of Kashmir where the two stayed for over a year. Later the Baba granted Ismail Sahab permission to leave and Syed Saleh Khan stayed back and took religious and spiritual guidance from the Baba for 13 years. Syed Saleh Khan also meditated for 12 years in a cave and also stayed for some time in the Srinagar city. Afterwards, he chose a place in a jungle for worship and meditation. The cave, where he meditated, is still present. During his stay in the cave, people began to visit Syed Saleh Khan. Soon he was widely known to be a saint of high order whereupon the number of his disciples increased manifold. The place came to be known as Khan Sahab after him. Hazrat Syed Saleh Khan passed away on Zeeqad 17,1019 H. He was a fine calligrapher and a copy of the holy Quran calligraphed by him is available in the Watel Kadal quarter of the Srinagar city. In the month of Zeeqad a weeklong Urs (festival) is held at the tomb of Syed Salah Khan Sahab.

IMAMBARA, BADGAM

The Imambara Badgam is a major religious place for the Shiete muslims of Kashmir. The building of the Imambara was originally constructed in 1857, under the supervision of Aga Syed Mohammad, on the place where a famous Shiete religious leader, Aga Syed Mehdi used to offer prayers under a Chinar. The inside of the building was designed by Asgar Ali of Mirgund, Badgam. In 1924, extensions were carried out on the existing structure by Aga Syed Sahab and paper-machine work was also undertaken. In 1955 another extension was carried out by the Anjuman-e-Shari Shian under Aga Syed Yusuf Almosavi Alsafvi.

The present octagonal Imambara has five main enterences each of 12 ft in width. One of the doors is reserved for women. Adjacent to the Imambara is a mosque constructed by Aga Syed Yusuf Almosavi Alsafvi. The Indo-

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Iranian piece of architect, the Imambara, Badgam commands great reverence of Shia muslims of the Valley. Apart from religious significance, it is equally important as a peice of monumental value.

ZIARAT ALAMDAR-E-KASHMIR

Sheikh Noor-ud-Din had widely travelled throughout Kashmir. The shrines connected with his memory are found all over the Valley. The land of Khag also had the good fortune of receiving the saint and there would hardly be any place here not visited by him during his meditation. The village of Hamchapora also provided him a place to commune with God. When Alamdar-e-Kashmir arrived in the environs of Khag, he selected a rock for his meditation which bore the imprints of his feet. The rock is known as Shah Kean (the king stone). During his stay at Poshkar, Sheikh-ul-Aalam met a pious lady, Sham Ded, who under his guidance, attained spiritual heights. The Sheikh stayed for long at Hamchapora and the place where he worshiped his God is today known as the Ziarat (Shrine) of Sheikh-ul-Alam. Pilgrims visit the shrine in large numbers and pay their respects.

THE TOMB OF SHAM DED

Sham Ded, was the daughter of an iron-smith of Poshkar village. She was introduced to the spirituality by Sheikh-ul-Alam. Around the same time, the Sheikh had another disciple in the person of Baba Latif-ud-Din Qazi. It is said that Sham Ded informed Baba Latif-ud-Din about the departure to the heavenly abode, of their spiritual leader. it was evening(sham) when the lady broke the news to the Baba. Hence she was known as Sham Ded. A respected lady is referred to as Ded in Kashmiri. The pious women, after her death, was laid to rest in Poshkar village.

BABA LATIF-UD-DIN

In the Poshkar village is the tomb of Hazrat Baba Latif-ud-Din Qazi, the worthy disciple of the worthy saint, Sheikh-ul-Alam. He possessed great qualities. The Baba, in search of employment, had to come to Kashmir from Kistwar and when he arrived here, he began the search for a spiritual guide. Some people believe that this search led him to Poshkar where he had an audiance with Sheikh-ul-Alam. Known then as Ludo Raina, the Baba asked for the spiritual cure of his ailments. The spiritual power of the Sheikh influenced Raina and he became his disiciple after which he was known as Hazrat Baba Latif-ud-Din. The company of the Sheikh tought him to serve the suffering humanity, besides striving for spritual attainment. On the command of the Sheikh, the Baba left Poshkar and meditated for years in a cave known as Baba Marg, situated many miles away from Poskhar, where he later passed away. The disciples of the Baba were anxious as to how their other colleagues in remote areas would reach this far-flung cave to perform his last rites. Their anxiety, however, proved shot-lived as the coffin, carring the body of the Baba, miraculously took off and flew to the Poshkar village where the saint was later laid to rest. On the 7th of Phaguna every year, a festival is held on the tomb where relics, including a sword of the Baba are displayed.

THE SHRINE OF SYED MOHAMMAD SAMRI

Seven kms from Habir village of Khag, at Lassapora, is situated the shrine of Hazrat Syed Mohammad Samri. On the 12th of Phaguna devotees throng the shrine to pay obesience to the spiritual leader. The saint had arrived here from Shopian several hundred years ago and chose meditate in the dense forests for years together where ultimately he passed away. He was laid to rest at Laspora.

THE SHRINE OF HAZRAT GANGA BABA RISHI

Hazrat Ganga Baba Rishi is one of the prominent saints resting in Palapora, Poshkar. He spent his entire life in material poverty but with his meditation and prayers attained enormous spiritual wealth. In and around Palapora, 3 kms from Khag, the Baba is believed to have constructed 360 mosques and an equal number of culverts. He had migrated from Maraz and lived in Palapora, where he breathed his last and was laid to rest. His tomb is visited by a large number of pilgrims. The Baba, as a true environmentalist, planted thousands of trees during his life time. One poplar was said to have attained the girth of 40 ft.

TOMB OF ZIA-UD-DIN BUKHARI

Some three hundred years ago, it is believed, Hazrat Zia-ud-Din Bukhari entered the Valley from Bukhara alongwith 360 Sayyids. During his stay here, he came to Kanihama for preaching of Islam. The Saint performed many miracles one of whom is related to a blind girl. It is said that he asked the girl to fetch some fire for his Kangri (firepot). Since the girl was blind, she expressed her inability to do so. Upon this, the saint touched her eyes with his hand and the girl's eye sight was restored. Hazrat Bukhari passed away at Kanihama and was laid to rest there. On the 26th of Muslim month of Rajab is celebrated a festival at the shrine which people in large number attend.

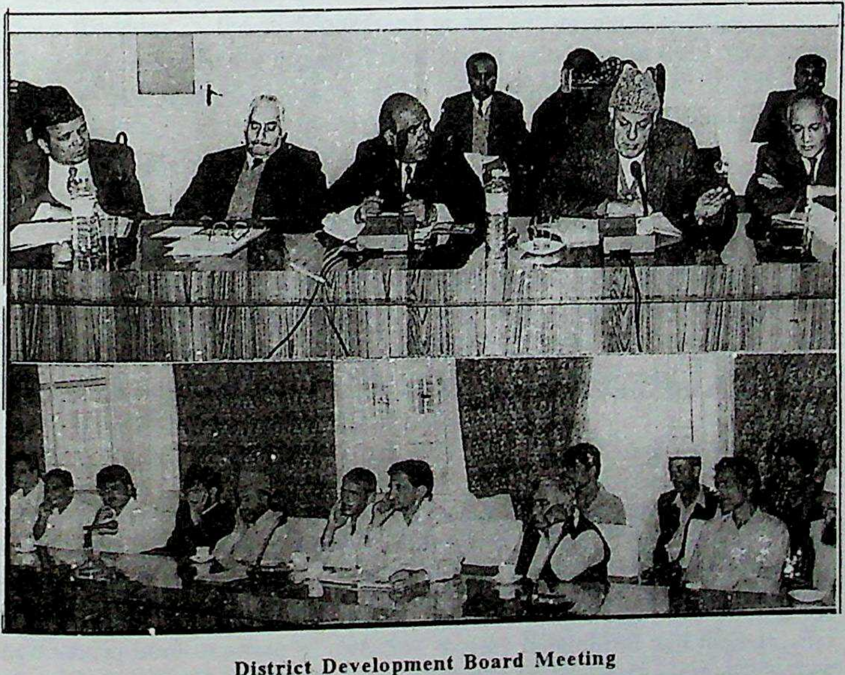
TOMB OF SYED TAJ-UD-DIN AND SYED ALLA-UD-DIN

According to a local legend, when Syed Taj-ud-Din arrived in the jurisdiction of Khag, the Mala Kol silently followed him from Sukh Nag to Sikanderpora. Syed Taj-ud-Din first arrived in Sukh Nag where he stayed for long, and later, crossing various villages, reached Sikandarpora. He spent rest of his life there. After his death, the mantle of spritual guidance of people fell on his son, Syed Alla-ud-Din who was equally a pious soul. The tomb of both, father and son, are situated in Sikandarpora and attract devotees seeking spiritual peace.

DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

The annual plan of district Budgam for 1997-98 has been fixed at Rs.33.55 crores against Rs.26.29 crores of 1996-97.

The plan envisaged spendings of over Rs.17 crores on social services



District Development Board Meeting

including education. This was followed by Industries sector with an allocation of Rs.10.52 crores. The Agriculture and allied services have been provided with about Rs.6.70 crores, Rural Development Rs.3.86 crores and Communication Rs.4.25 crores.

Under Mid-day meal scheme 318 schools had been covered benefitting over 18,000 students. Under Border Area Development programme Rs.183 lakhs have been spent. During 1996-97, 413 small scale industrial units were set-up under PMRY and State Self Employment programme while financial institutions advanced Rs.100 lakhs as loans.

Under NSAP 1700 persons have been benefitted. This includes 1288 persons who are being provided with National Old Age pension.

District Plan 1997-98

(Rs.in lakhs)

S.No.	Sector	Outlay	Expenditure
1.	Agriculture & Allied Services	670.59	597.04
2.	Rural Development	386.27	341.46
3.	Industries	105.27	110.07
4.	Communication	425.00	396.16
5.	Energy	60.00	55.96 (P)
6.	Social & Gen.Services	1701.64	NA
7.	Others	6.40	6.83
	Total	**3355.17**	**2913.63 (P)**

SECTORWISE DEVELOPMENT

AGRICULTURE

Since district is predominantly rural in character, its economy is agriculture based. The net area sown in the district is 53,400 hectares. Of this, paddy is cultivated on 27,225 hectares and maize on 14,235 hectares. Vegetables are grown on 2305 hectares of land and oilseeds on 6,220 hectares. The Government has formulated various schemes to increase food production. The Agriculture Department has set up 7 agricultural zones in the district which are run by trained staff. The staff provides techinical knowhow and latest methods of cultivation to the farmers. Sufficient amount of fertilizers made available to the farmers of the district has increased the per hectare yield.

The agriculture department provided 1500 quintals of imported seeds valued at Rs.17 lakhs, to farmers of district during 1996-97. In addition 781 seed-bens, 771 ploughs, 33 spray tubs, 61 pesticides pumps valuing Rs.10 lakhs were distributed among farmers on subsidised rates. On all these agriculture inputs a subsidy of Rs. 5 lakhs was given to farmers.

HORTICULTURE

The district has a net area of 4275 hectares under orchards with apples, walnuts, almonds, pears, cherry, grapes and apricots as the main fruits of the district.The Horticulture department is striving to improve the quality and production of the fruit grown in the district. Growers were provided fruit plants on 75% subsidy to help them establish themselves in the business. With foot-pumps and motor power sprayers on 33% subsidy, about 210 hectares of land have been brought under fresh fruit cultivation and 30 hectares under dry fruit cultivation. The Horticulture department is operating four schemes in the district aimed at increasing the fruit production, by planting fast growing imported fruit plants with greater yield over an area of over 300 hectares. Allocation for 1997-98 was Rs.44.63 lakhs.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Live-stock rearing is the main occupation of people living in the upper reaches of the district. The total livestock population in the district is 3.43 lakhs of which cattle account for 1.87 lakhs. This includes 12,000 of crossbred animals. More than 1.30 lakh animals were treated against various diseases including contageous ones. Besides, more than two lakh animals were vaccinated and over 42,000 artificially inseminated. The allocation for 1997-98 in this sector was Rs.57.60 lakhs.

HEALTH

The district has a network of 187 medical institutions with 101 doctors.These include a district hospital,Sub-district hospitals, Primary health centres, allopathic dispensaries and 5 medical aid centres. Thus their is a doctor for every 4924 souls and medical institution for every 2660 perons at projected population. The annual allocation under this sector for 1997-98 was Rs.3.83

crores. A Dental College is under construction in the district which would be completed at a cost of Rs. 100 lakhs. Two ambulances have been provided to the Primary Health Centres of border areas.The staff strength has also been increased in various health centres. Ten new sub-health Centres have been opened in the district.

COMMUNICATION

MAJOR ROADS

The major roads of the district include Badgam- Srinagar via Rambagh, Chrar- e- Sharief- Srinagar via Chanapora, Badgam-Chanpora via Ichhgam, Badgam-Beerwah via Nasrullah Pora, Badgam-Arizal, Badgam-Khan Sahab, Badgam-Bemina, Airport-Srinagar.

The total road length in the district is 1105 kms which includes 396 kms black topped roads. Thus the average road length in the district works out to be 80:60 kms per 100 sq kms area and over 222 kms per lakh person. 586 Rfts of drains/culverts were constructed and 81 kms of road length was upgraded during 96-97 at a cost of Rs.378.22 lakhs. work on Chrar-i-Sharif road is in progress. This is one of the important arterial roads taken up by the Government.

The annual plan outlay under this head for 1997-98 for the district is Rs.425.00 lakhs.

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING

Provision of portable water to all is one of the priorities of the State Government. Accordingly, steps are being taken to achieve this goal. Badgam district is also striving for this objective. Since 1990, various steps have been taken to extend to the people of all villages the drinking water facility. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has also provided funds for this purpose. With the result, all the villages of district are covered sofar as extension of portable water facility is concerned. The district has 325 schemes.

A number of water supply schemes damaged by floods in the recent past were repaired and renovated. Against a target of covering two villages in a year with drinking water facilities, five villages were covered sofar. Besides, 6 villages and 8 Patties with 2700 souls were provided portable water. Plan allocated for 1997-98 under this head was Rs. 506.25 lakhs.

JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJNA

The JRY is a centrally sponsored scheme aimed at poverty eradication by generating employment opportunities for the rural masses. The cost sharing on the programme between the Centre and the State is in the ratio of 80:20. The total allocation for the sector for 1997-98 was Rs.40.43 lakhs.

Against the target of 219 development works 207 were executed in the district during 1996-97. Of which 198 works were completed at a cost of Rs.71 lakhs thereby generating 10.60 lakh mandays work.

EDUCATION

The district has a network of 764 schools, imparting education to 90,000 students at various levels. The number of schools has registered more than double increase in the last 16 years. The number stood at 350 on the creation of Badgam district in 1979. Of the 90,000 students,47 per cent are female. The break-up of the educational institutions in the district is 14 Higher Secondary Schools,56 High Schools, 156 middle schools and 520 primary schools. There are also 10 Central and 8 mobile schools besides a sufficient number of private schools operating in the district.

In order to impart education to uneducated adults, there are 368 Adult Education Centres functional in the district where so-far 42,000 rural people have been imparted education. The education set-up in the district is divided into 12 zones (blocks) each headed by a Zonal Education Officer. The total number of school teachers in the district is 3429. A Novodaya Vidyala building at Khanpour is fast coming up. The allocation had been proposed at Rs.604.05 lakhs for 1997-98.

More than thirty thousand students were given free uniforms involving a cost of over Rs.26 lakhs. 1300 students in the district got scholarships of Rs.2 lakhs in 1996-97. The newly introduced mid-day meal scheme received positive response in the district during the year and over RS.20 lakhs were spent on providing mid-day meals to 18000 children of the district during 1996-97.

Besides, the staff strength in various schools have been increased and latest laboratory facilities have been provided in 8 schools. 17 new primary schools have been opened, while 2 middle schools have been up-graded to High schools and one High schools was up-graded to higher Secondary. 36 gutted school buildings have been re-constructed in the district sofar.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Social welfare is an important activity of the Government and like other districts, Badgam is playing significant role in the implementation of the scheme. The set-up in the sector is divided into a District Social Welfare Officer, 3 Tehsil Social Welfare Officers and 12 Social Welfare Centres,10 of whom are for women. The centres are located at Badgam (5), Beerwah (4), and Chadoora (3). The centres provide training to 300 men and women in different crafts every year to enable them to earn their livelihood.

The National Social Assistance Programme(NSAP), under implementation in the district, comprises three schemes including National Old Age Pension Programme (NOAP), National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS) and National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS). The district has 5 integrated Child Development Schemes, one each at Badgam,Khan Sahab, Chadoora, Khag and Nagam. Each block is headed by one ICD Project Officer.

The proposed allocation in the Social Welfare for 1997-98 was Rs.9.70 lakhs.

The department of Social welfare spent Rs.90 lakhs on various social welfare activities in district. Of this Rs.77 lakhs were incurred for providing pension to 6000 destitutes and physically handicaped. In addition Rs.5.50 lakhs were disbursed as scholarship among 2200 students besides Rs.6.17 lakhs were distributed as old age pension to 1300 deserving people during 1996-97.

Three blocks of district have been brought under this scheme. Each block would have 56 Anganwari centres raising the number of total Aanganwari centres to 442.

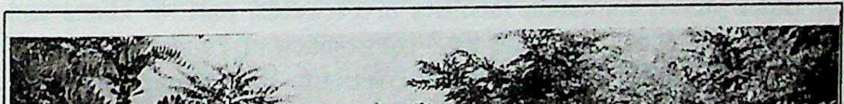
NUTRITION

During 1996-97, 3 new ICDS projects for B.K.Pora, Beerwah and Narbal were sanctioned raising their number to 8 in the district. RS.37.34 lakhs were utilized by these projects for providing nutrition to children and on their health care.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

In the Rural Development sector, the development of women and children in rural areas (DWCRA) programme in the district is a success story. During the last two year,47 women groups have been formed, of which 31 were formed in 1995-96 alone. The groups have been registered under ths Socities Act. The rural women have shown growing interest in their group activities and more and more individuals approached the concerned officials for DWCRA formation. Under the DWCRA programme 10 to 15 rural women jointly form a group which is assisted by the Government through Rural Development Agency. The Government provides Rs.15,000 to the group as revolving fund and full liberty to choose its own common activity, purchase of materials and sale of products and share the profit. In case of difficulty in marketing, the group is allowed to use the DWCRA shop set to provide marketing outlet to such groups.

Under this scheme,327 income generating units were established in the district during 1996-97. Of this 105 units were set-up under agriculture and allied sectors, 157 under services sector and 65 units under industries sector. Rs.89 lakhs were spent on this sector during 1996-97. Under TRYSEM 269 candidates were trained in various crafts against a target of 300 trainees. Besides 17 DWCRA groups were formed in the district during 1996-97. Allocation under this head for 1997-98 is Rs.44 lakhs.



A House constructed under Indira Aawas Yojna

INDRA MAHILA YOJNA

The scheme aimed at creating awareness among rural women folk about health care, rural development programme at Anganwadi centres through block samities. 56 rural women groups were identified to function as office bearers at IMY kendras in Anganwadi centres. Rs.2.25 lakhs were deposited in the banks for implementing the scheme during 1997-98.

MAHILA SAMRITRI YOGNA

Under this scheme house hold ladies are motivated to go for small savings from their daily expenditure. The deposits are made at their nearest post offices. Under the scheme Rs.70,000 were deposited during 1996-97 in the district.

EMPLOYMENT ASSURANCE SCHEME

The scheme introduced in the district in 1995-96, is being implemented in the blocks of Khag, Beerwah, Khan Sahab and Nagam. The activities under the scheme included construction of buildings for the Health Sector, foodgrain godowns for ICDS/Social Welfare sector, buildings for TRYSEM, buildings for Block stores, sanitation facilities in 14 wards, partwar khans and veternary buildings. Under the EAS construction of buildings taken up include Health,Education, ICDS/Social Welfare, Food Supplies, Animal Husbandy and Rural Development. The proposed allocation of EAS in the district for 1997-98 stood at Rs.184.00 lakhs. Under this scheme 818 works were targetted during 1996-97. Of which 784 works were taken up for execution. As many as 585 works were completed at a cost of Rs.3.61 crores thereby generating 2.93 lakh mandays.

IRRIGATION

The topography of the district is mainly hilly and kandi and crops mostly depend on moonsoons. There is, as such, no major irrigation scheme in the district.The irrigation is being done by zamindari khuls. During 1996-97 10 irrigation khuls were repaired at a cost of Rs.2.30 lakhs. The net area irrigated in the district is 32000 hectares and efforts are on to stabilise irrigation in the distict. Marval Lift Irrigation Scheme has been renovated in 1997 and this will stablize 3000 hectares of land in the district. Rs.2.10 crores had been allocated for this sector in 1997-98. 350 hectares of land was provided with additional irrigation facilities. All the on-going schemes were completed during the year involving an expenditure of Rs.210.34 lakhs.

FORESTS

The forest area in the district spread over 750 sq kms and comprises 3 forest ranges,namely Doodganga, Raithan and Sri Pratap Pora. The forest department launched a special drive to plant trees in degraded forests in the district under which 200 hectares were covered.In 1996 a special programme of Chinar plantation was lauched, Consequently, as many as 1000 chinar trees were planted along the road sides from Humhama to D.D.C. Office complex at Badgam district headquarters. In addtion,150 hectares of land were covered under aforestation scheme.

Under rehabilitation of degraded forest plantation programme an area of 100 hectares was brought under 25000 saplings. Over 100 chinar saplings were planted along the road side at a cost of Rs.2 lakhs. In all over Rs.8 lakhs were spent on this sector in 1996-97. The forest department supplied 5000 CFT's of timber for construction purposes in the district.

The department of forests with collaboration of police department launched a special drive to combat timber smuggling in the district. In this connection 200 cases were registered and culprits were booked under law. 3 illegal bandsaw machines were confiscated and destroyed.

Plantation

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CO-OPERATIVES

The Co-operative department is meeting the main requirement of K.oil in the district.During 1996-97 1700 qtls of sugar and 2.50 lakh litres of K.oil was supplied by the department to the consumers of the district. The department intends to redouble its effort and increase the membership of the Co-operatives.Over Rs.3.5 lakhs were spent on the sector in 1996-97.

YOUTH SERVICES AND SPORTS

The department of Youth Services and Sports is up-grading the sports standard among the youths of the district. 102 trained instructors have been deployed to impart necessary training to the students.Various competitions of foot ball,Kabbadi,kho-kho, cricket, trekking are being held in the district regularly. 15 players from the district represented in various sports on national level. 25 outstanding sportsmen were provided scholarships by Youth services department during 1996-97. Rs. 6 lakhs were incurred on sports development in the district.

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

2.50 lakh quintals of food grains were distributed to 5 lakh consumers through 170 sale outlets in the district. 7 food godowns with a capacity to store 20,000 metric tonnes of food grains. 20 new sale outlets have been opened in farflung areas of the district.

MILLION WELL SCHEME

67 development works were taken in hand in district Badgam in 1996-97. Of which 60 development works were completed at a cost of Rs.17.40 lakhs generating 2.24 lakh mandays of work.

FISHERIES

Two new fish ponds at Narbal were completed. Against target of 0.24 lakh fish feed, 0.25 lakh was achieved. Besides, five houses were built for fishermen under a separate scheme at a cost of Rs.0.35 lakhs each involving an amount of Rs.1.75 lakhs. The allocation for 1997-98 under this head was Rs.4.37 lakhs.

SOCIAL FORESTRY

The target for plantation was achieved in full viz 0.90 lakh plants under

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village wood lot,0.32 lakh under strip plantation,0.51 lakh under institutional plantation and 0.35 lakh under pasture development thereby covering a total area of 196 hectars during 1996-97. Allocation for the 1997-98 stood at Rs.45.00 lakhs.

RURAL SANITATION

The work of rural sanitation was started in 8 villages of the disrict during 1996-97. 856 latrines were constructed and 73 other development works were also completed. The expenditure booked on these works was RS.36.40 lakhs.

HANDICRAFTS AND HANDLOOMS

81 units and 7 artisans were registered under registration scheme during 1996-97. 94 trainees were trained in various crafts during this period.

Under Handloom sector,38 trainees were trained in various trades.Besides 8 looms were modernised in the district.

GUJJAR AND BAKERWAL

Under this scheme 50 gujjar and bakerwal students were provided hostel facilities and 1800 students have been provided scholarships while 25 students of the community were exempted from examination fee. Rs.13.10 lakhs were spent under this sector last year.

P. M. R. Y

This is a self employment scheme. During 1996-97, banks-sanctioned loan of Rs.67.11 lakhs in favour of 94 educated youths. The scheme is now administered by District Industries Centre instead of District employment department.

NATIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

This programme is being attached priority in this district. The programme comprises social upliftment schemes like national old age pension, national maternity benefit scheme and national family benefit scheme etc. Under this scheme, 1288 persons were provided old age pension, 400 female were brought under maternity benefit while 26 persons were brought under national benefit scheme. Rs.81.70 lakhs were spent on this sector during 1996-97.

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RE-HABILITATION OF MILITANCY VICTIMS

An ex-gratia relief of Rs.10.50 crores was provided to militancy affected people upto August 1997. Besides compensate appointments in Government services were made in favour of 275 persons affected by militancy in the district upto August 1997.

I. A. Y.

Under this scheme construction of 1227 one room tenaments for people living below poverty line, were taken in hand during 1996-97. Of these 1039 tenaments were completed at a cost of Rs.104 lakhs which generated 1.11 lakh mandays of work.

NON PLAN SCHEMES

In district Budgam 45 works were under execution during 1996-97. Rs.20 lakhs were incurred till March 1997 on these works.

INSTITUTIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

There are 33 branches of different banks in the district. J&K bank is the lead bank among other district banks. Besides, J&K bank, and other nationalized banks, which had hitherto suspended work due to militancy have also recently started functioning.

TELECOMMUNICATION

STD facility has been made available at Badgam, Hyderpora and Barzalla through public call offices. A modern type telephone exchange at Barzulla with a capacity of 3000 connection has been commissioned and has started functioning.

A 256- Line Electronic Telephone Exchange, inaugurated by the Chief Minister in September 1997 at historic pilgrim centre of Chrar-i-Sharief is yet another land mark of development made in the district which would benefit t he people of the town to have the STD facilities at their door steps.

POWER

Nine rural electrification schemes taken up in 1996-97 in the district were completed at a cost of Rs.197 lakhs. Presently sub-receiving-stations at

CC-0 Aga

Khag and Chadoora are under construction. A big receiving station is coming up at Shariefabad Budgam at a cost of Rs.45 lakhs.

CHRAR-E-SHARIEF RELIEF AND REHABILITATION MEASURES

Consequent upon the fire tragedy of Chrar-e-Sharief in May,1995, the owners of 850 gutted structures have so far been given ex-gratia relief. The total amount of relief provided to the fire sufferers upto ending June,1996 was Rs.19.85 crores. Of this,more than Rs.13 crores were provided under the Prime Minster's Relief Fund while about Rs.6.5 crores were given from the State Fund.The relief measures include Rs.9.93 lakhs on account of provision of blankets and Rs.1.20 crores for payment of cash relief of Rs.10,000 per family for 1200 effected families. As many as 356 plots were alloted to the affected people while as many as 358 houses were constructed outside the Notified Area Committee limits. Besides, 130 cft. timber was provided on concessional rates for each gutted structure.

IMPORTANT INSTALLATION

There are some important installations located in Badgam district which are engaged in developmental activities and extension of various faciliteis to the public.

PETRO DEPOT, SANATNAGAR

The Ministry of Petroleum, Government of India set up a petrol depot at Sanatnagar in 1974. The depot met a long standing pubic demand.The depot has a storage capacity of 50,000 liters of petrol.

L. P. GAS PLANT, PEERBAGH

The L.P.Gas plant at Peerbagh was established by Hindustan Petroleum in 1983. The plant has a storage capacity of 20,000 litres of gas.

AIR PORT

The Srinagar Airport, now called the New Airport, was constructed in 1980. The airport caters to the needs of the outgoing and incoming passengers from Delhi,Jammu,Chandigarh and Leh. Besides, helicopter services to Kargil,Karman and Gurez are also operated from the airport.

THE MANY FIRSTS TO BADGAM'S CREDIT

MEHILA SAMRIDHI YOJANA

Badgam is the first and the only district to start and successfully implement the Mehila Samridhi Yojana in the Valley in 1994-95.

BLINDNESS CONTROL

Badgam is the first and the only district in the Valley to register a district Blindness Control Socieity under the National Programme for Control of Blindness.

ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION

Badgam is the only district in the State to have established an Environment Centre for which membership with the World Wide Fund (WWF) has been obtained. A NGO with public and official members has been formed in the district which is the first NGO of its kind in the State.

RED CROSS

Badgam is the only district in the State where Red Cross has a building of

Women entreprenuers learning Handicarfts.

its own. The building, constructed recenly, runs vocational training centre for destitute women. It is the only Red Cross Society in the State providing vocational training to militants during their stay in JICs.

DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL WOMEN

Badgam is the only district in the State where marketing facilities for DWCRA groups in the form of DECRA shop has been established and is functional. Here is the only DRDA in the State where the DRWCA groups are formally registered societies.

COMPUTERISATION OF OFFICE FUNCTIONING

Badgam is the first and the only district in the Valley with trained Junior Assistants to handle inhouse DTP, database handling and reprography. On-line monitoring of ISSS schemes, JRY/EAS works, public grievances etc. is done through the computers.

Preduman K. Joseph Dha
M.A

CULTURAL CENTRE

Badgam is the only district in the State to establish NGO called District Society for Art and culture with a cultural centre. The NGO comprises prominent artists of the district.

LOW COST HOUSING

Badgam is the only district in the State to have integrated the low cost housing technology inputs and rural employment through TRYSEM by conducting programmes on mechanised mud brick making process.

BUILDING CENTRE

Badgam district has registered a society for appropriate building technology (Building Centre). It is the only functional centre in the Valley.

MINI ITI's

Under DRDA, Badgam is the only district to start TRYSEM programme in mini ITIs in remote parts of the district in collaboration with Directorate of Technical Education.

DATABASE ON PHYSICALLY DISABLED

Badgam is the first district to conduct 100 percent survery of physically

Budgam.Funding by IKS-MoE-2025-Grant

disabled persons, computerise the database and undertake follow-up programme through artificial limb camps/ corrective surgery.

PILOT PROJECT ON TOTAL LITERACY OF WOMEN

Badgam is the first district in the Valley to adopt a village through the involvement of NGOs for eradicating illitracy among women through launching of a comprehensive education programme under the Red Cross.

DISNIC SURVERY

Badgam is the only district in the Valley to have conducted the DISNIC Survery,94.

UNICEF AND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Badgam is the only district in the State to have collaborated with UNICEF for training programme for DWCRA functionaries.

GOVT OF J&K
ESTD 1995
ESTD 1995
BUDGAM INSTITUTE OF
TRAINING FOR
SELF EMPLOYMENT
D.R.D.A.
DISTRICT
RURAL DEV AGENCY

CC-0 Agam Chandigarh Funding by IKS-MoE-2025-Grant

COMPERATIVE STATEMENT OF YEAR WISE EXPENDITURE (IN LAKH)

Sector	Expdt. 92-93	Expdt. 93-94	Expdt. 94-95	Expdt. 95-96	Outlay 96-97	Expdt. 96-97	Expdt. 92-97
Agriculture & Allied Service	337.31	323.40	378.23	492.70	476.09	562.52	2094.16
Rural Dev.	77.77	72.87	128.88	214.50	292.83	238.88	732.90
Industries	62.15	56.60	65.74	76.59	80.27	86.24	347.32
Communication.	223.59	186.70	255.64	241.67	293.97	377.22	1294.82
Energy	32.93	37.60	167.40	208.00	186.00	204.46	650.39
Social & Gen.Services	714.22	804.25	885.49	1062.76	1296.42	1378.43	4845.15
Others	-	1.92	4.62	3.58	3.40	6.56	16.68
Total:-	**1447.97**	**1483.34**	**1886.00**	**2299.80**	**2628.98**	**2854.31**	**9971.42**

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WHO'S WHO

Telephone Nos.

CODE NO : 01951

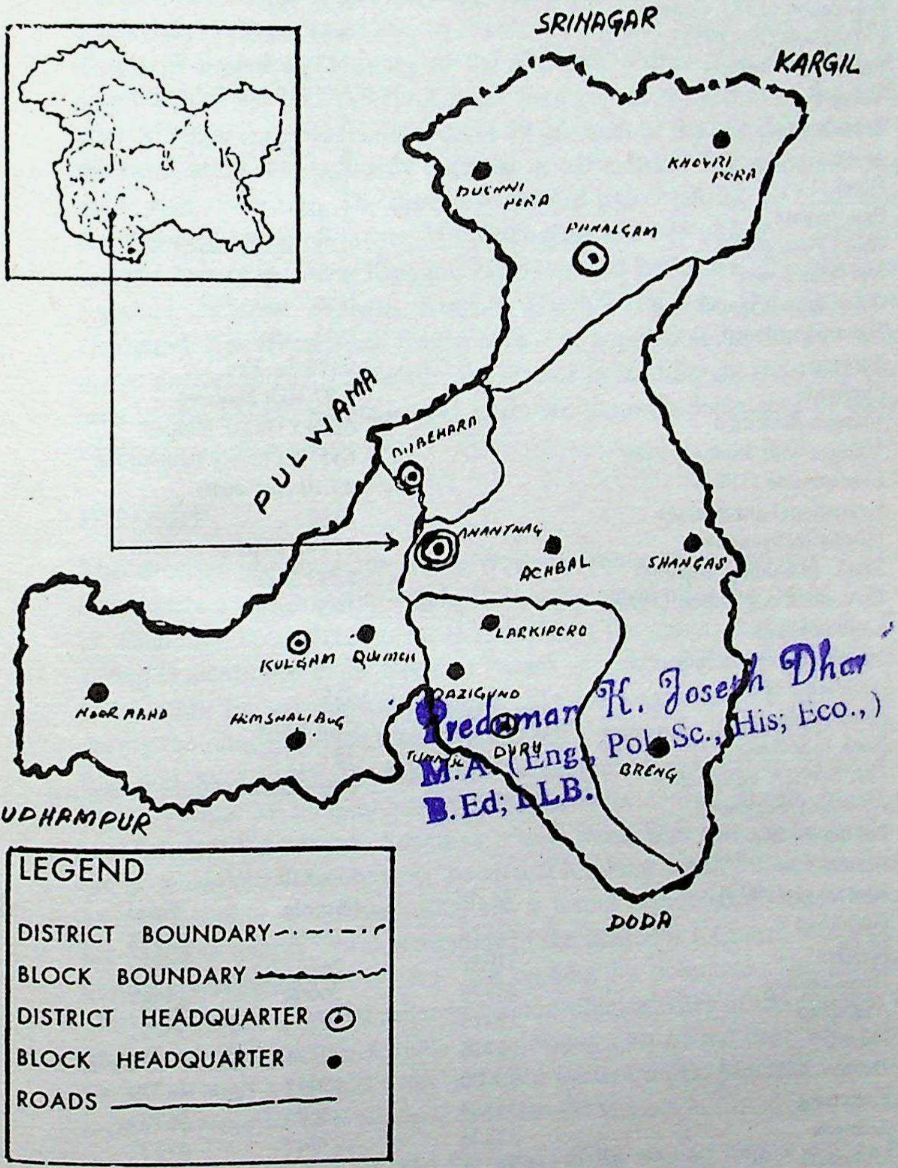
	Office	Residence
DDC, Budgam	55203	55204
S. SP. Badgam	55240	55241
Chief Agriculture Officer	55268	-
SCR Badgam	55242	-
Chief Education Officer	55206	-
ACD Badgam	55243	-
Distt.Information Officer	55272	55213

NAMES OF MINISTERS, MLAs & MLCs OF DISTRICT BADGAM

Mr. B.A.Kitchloo, Minister of Food Supplies & Transport,	544292
Chairman, D.D.B,	542259
Mr.AbdulRaheem Rather	Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, MLA Chararisharief.
Mr.Abdual Qayum	Minister for Education, MLC.
Mr.Aga Syed Mahmood	MOS Industries and commerce, MLA Beerua.
Mr.Gh.Hassan Geelani	MLA Badgam
Mr.Abdual Gani Naseem	MLA Khansahib
Mr.Ali Mohammad Dar	MLA Chadoora

CC-0 Agam

ANANTNAG DISTRICT


SRINAGAR
KARGIL
KHOVRI PORA
DUCHNI PORA
PAHALGAM
PULWAMA
BIJBEHARA
ANANTNAG
ACHBAL
SHANGAS
LARKIPORA
KULGAM
QUIMOH
NOORABAD
KIMSHALIBUG
QAZIGUND
TURNUK
DURU
BRENG
UDHAMPUR
DODA
LEGEND
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
BLOCK BOUNDARY
DISTRICT HEADQUARTER ⊙
BLOCK HEADQUARTER ●
ROADS

Predoman K. Joseph Dhar
M.A. (Eng, Pol. Sc., His; Eco.,)
B.Ed; LLB.

CC-0. Gangotri Kangri Preservation Foundation,Chandigarh.Funding by IKS-MoE-2025-Grant

ANANTNAG AT A GLANCE

Area	3984 Sq. Kms.
Population (1981 Census)	6,56,351
Population (Est.1991)	8.51 Lakhs
Population density	165 persons per Sq. Km.
Villages	645 (19 uninhabited)
Tehsils	5
Towns	8
Blocks	10
Panchayats	314
Gross Area Sown	0.95 lakh hectares
Net Area sown	0.74 -do-
Gross area irrigated	0.75 -do-
Net area irrigated	0.51 -do-
Forests	2398 Sq. Km.
Orchards	0.27 lakh hectares
Villages electrified	645+5 Gujjar Basties
Villages with drinking water	645+19 newly habitations
Literacy rate (1981)	23.10 (per cent)
Educational Institutions	1180
Health Institutions	271+2 PHC's
Roads (including jeepable)	1293 Kms.
Live stock population (1988)	10.97 lakh
Land holdings	57786
Villages covered under Agrarian Reforms	635
House holds	0.98 lakhs
Bank branches	78
Lok Sabha Constituency	1 (inclusive of Pulwama district)
Assembly Segments	10
Polling Booths	583
Annual Plan 1997-98	Rs.43.08 crores

Electorate(1998)	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Noorabad	22624	19969	42593
Kulgam	31032	26791	57823
Homshalibug	23179	19908	43087
Anantnag	29316	27375	56691
Devsar	29316	22121	50121
Doru	28000	15357	46720
Kokernag	31363	23605	56909
Shangas	33304	23247	47377
Bijbehara	24130	24943	54547
Pahalgam	27437	22354	49791
Total	**279991**	**225668**	**505659**

Situated 55 kms of the south-east of Srinagar, Anantnag district is spread over an area of 3934 sq. kms with a population of 8.51 lakhs. It is bounded by Srinagar district in the north, Pulwama districts in the north west and Kargil district in the north east. It is flanked by Doda and Udhampur districts in the east and south east and by district of Rajouri South west. Anantnag district is called the granary of the Kashmir Valley. The district has a population of 8.5 lakh (1991) It is the third populated district of the Valley after Srinagar and Baramulla. About 89 per cent of the population lives in the rural areas and is mostly engaged in agriculture. The principal crops being rice and maize. The district is divided into 5 tehsils, 10 community development blocks, 8 towns, 314 panchayats and 645 villages. The tehsils include Anantnag, Doru, Kulgam, Pahalgam and Bijbehara. The blocks are Sahabad, Achabal, Shangus, Kulgam, Damhal Hajipora, Qaimoh, Breng, Qazigund, Khoverpora and Dachnipora. The population density per sq. km in the district is 165. Culturally, the district is no different from any other area of the Valley. Kashmiri and Urdu are the main languages of people while rice is their staple food.

HISTORY

The district acquires the name from its main town and the district headquarters which during Hindu Rule was named after the spring Seesha or Anantnag (countless springs) situated in the south of the town. The spring is mentioned in the Neelmat Purana as a sacred place for the Hindus and Koshur Encyclopaedia testifies it. The town again gained significance during the muslim period when Aurangzeb's governor, Islam Khan (1664-65), laid out a garden for the Mughal Emperor who named the place after the governor as Islamabad. The Dogra ruler Gulab Singh, however rechristianed the town as Anantnag. Hugel found here some monuments of the Mughal period in ruin when he visited Kashmir in 1835. No significant ancient building or archaeological site is found in the district today except the Martand temple. All that remains of the temple is a central rectangular building surrounded by a court and rectangular colonnade.The majestic Martand temple is one of important archaeological sites of the country. Its impressive architecture reveals the glorious past of the area which has passed through a cultural evolution from ancient times. Martand temple is a clear expression of Kashmir's prestine glory.

Anantnag has for long enjoyed the status of the second largest city of the Valley. However, W.Wakfield, a traveller, who was in Kashmir in 1875, found the town in a shadow of its former glory. During the Dogra rule, there were only two districts in the Valley, Viz Anantnag and Baramulla. The Srinagar district itself was then a part of the Anantnag district.

SHRINES

The district has a rich share of important Muslim and Hindu shrines, visited by devotees in large numbers. The most important shrine is of Amarnath Cave situated about 48 kms from Pahalgam, which attracts devotees from all over India. It is located in the upper reaches of the district at an altitude of about 13,000 ft. from the seal level. The annual pilgrimage takes place in summer and witnesses rush of devotees. The shrine is believed to be an abode of Lord Shiva. The Lingam in the Cave is formed by dripping water through the lime stone roof of the cave. The Lingam waxes and wanes with the moon. Each year on Raksha Bandan (July-August) thousands of pilgrims make obeisance to the Lingam in the Cave.

The Yatra starts from Pahalgam which is the base camp for annual pilgrimage. Enroute one comes across scenic beauty of Chandanwari, Sheshnag and Panjtarni etc. Last year 70,000 pilgrims visited the Cave.

The temples of Mattan, Martand Mohal, Anantnag, Deviangan, Bijbehara, Akingam, Lukhbavan and Goswami Gund are attractive Hindu shrines.

The famous shrines of Bab-Zain-Ud-Din Wali (Aishmuqam), Baba Hyder Rishi (Anantnag), the last of the giants of the Rishi order in Kashmir about whose resting place the Alamdar-i-Kashmir, Sheikh Noor-ud-Din Rishi had foretold his disiples, Baba Dawood Ghani (Vailoo), Hazrat Noor Shah Bagdadi (Kund), Hazrat Sheikh Syed Samnani (Kulgam) and Baba Naseeb-ud-Din Ghazi (Bijbehara). Besides, the shrines at Kaba Marg and Khiram Share has the distinction of possessing the holy relics of Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him). The devotees of the district and other places in the valley visit these shrines particularly on days when festivals connected with the shrines are celebrated.

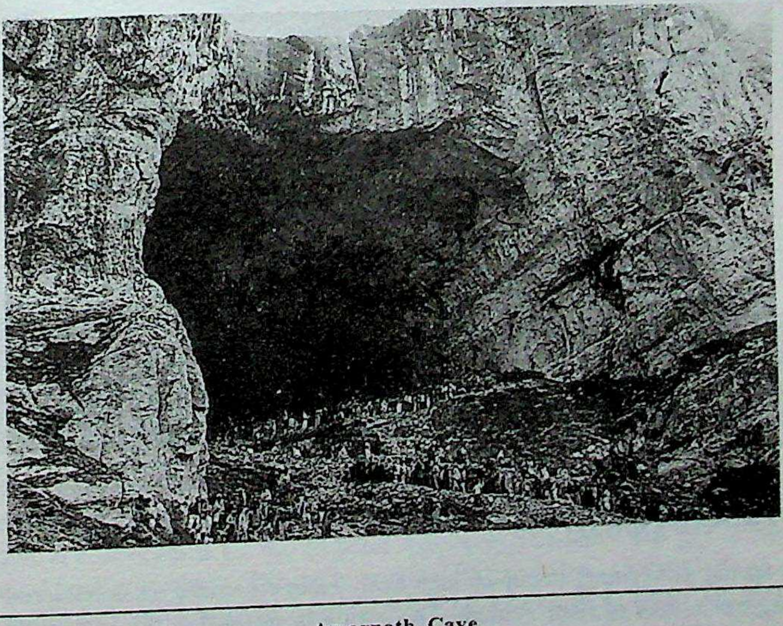
RIVERS AND LAKES

The Anantnag district has many rivers, lakes and springs adding to the beauty of the area. while the rivers and lakes abound in fish, the springs possess medicinal value.

The Jhelum: The major river of Kashmir, the Jhelum, originates from the spring Verinag located in the foot of the Panjal mountains in the district. The river which was once the main mode of transportation, continues to be the life-line of Kashmir and runs a course of 203 kms through the valley. The valley's far biggest hydro electric power house, the 105- MWs Lower Jhelum Hydel Power Project is fed by this river while another 480-MWs. Uri Hydel Project, is under construction on the Jhelum in Baramulla district. Important towns and significant shrines are located on the banks of the river in Anantnag district.

The Lidder: The river Lidder originates in the glaciers of the high mountains of Pahalgam. Its tributories include the nallahs of Aroo and Chandanwari. Besides irrigating thousands of hectares of land, the river is the main source of water supply for Anantnag town and the adjacent areas. The water of the river is treated at Bumzoo before releasing it for human consumption. The Pahalgam and the nearby areas are called the Lidder Valley after this river.

The Brengi and the Sandren: The rivulets originate in Kokernag and Kapran areas of the district and irrigate large areas of agricultural land along their course, besides providing drinking water and lot of fish, especially the trout.



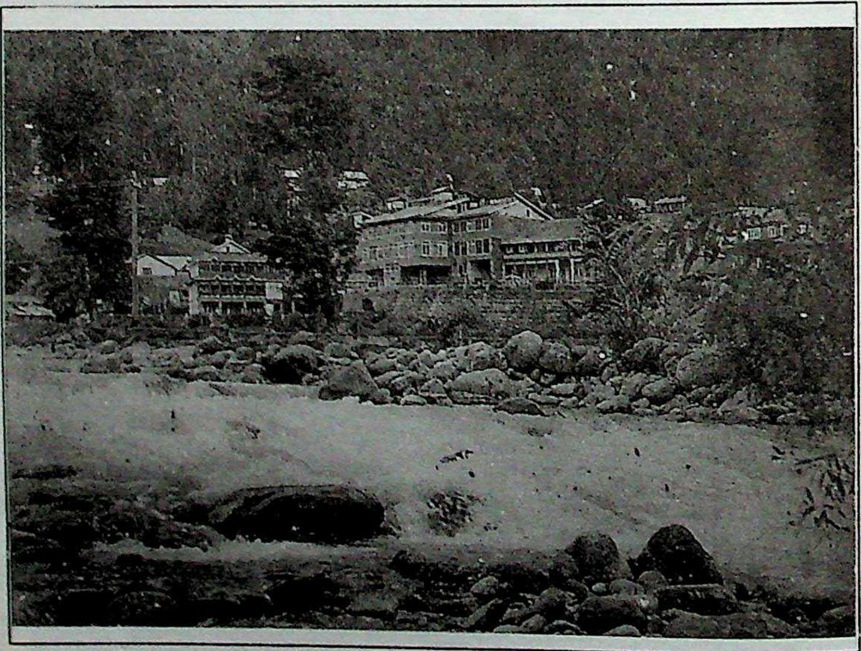
Amarnath Cave

PLACES OF TOURIST INTEREST

The district is not only the Bread Bowl of the Valley, it is equally rich in landscape. The nature has been bountiful enough in gifting the district with places of unparalleleled beauty, important among these being:-

Pahalgam

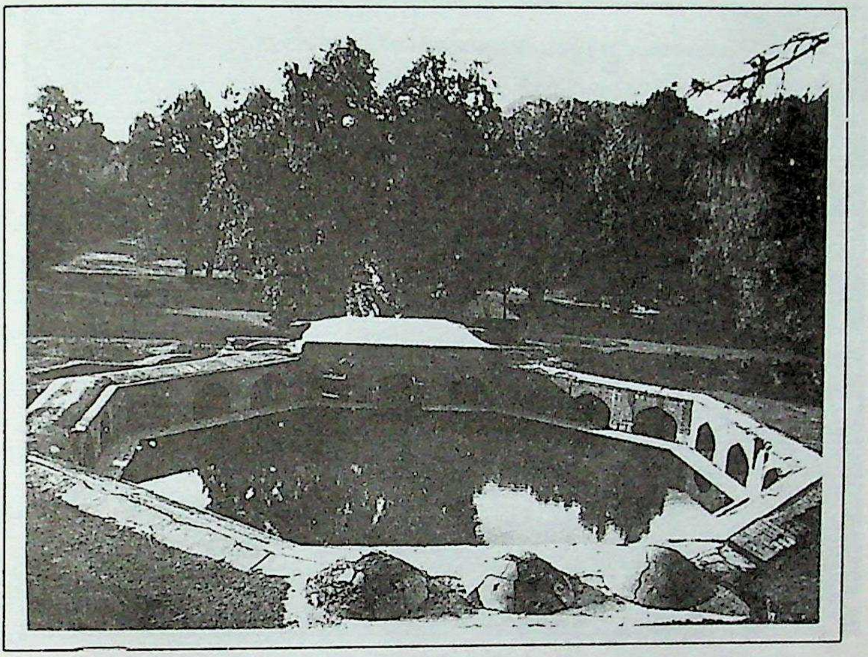
The world famous hill station 45 kms from Anantnag town, situated at an altitude of 7200 ft., is a great tourist puller and perhaps the best health resort in the State, located by the banks of the river Lidder. Pahalgam Valley presents a glamorious look due to its pine forests, snow-clad mountains, healthy climate and vast spread meadows and pastures. Torrential flow of water in Lidder Nallah enriches the winsome beauty of the valley.Pahalgam also serves as the base camp for the famous Amarnath Yatra. Besides tourist huts, several hotels in private sector have come up here, providing modern facilities to tourists.



Phalagam

VERINAG (Spring)

A spring at Verinag, about 26 kms away from Anantnag, is considered the original source of river Jehlum. The spring is situated at the bottom of hill



Verinag Spring

covered by pine trees, evergreen plants and Chinars which even stand today along the spring in magnificent size. Further to the east, lie the remains of a pavallion and baths built during the Mughal period. Wonderful and charming construction upon the spring as well as its adjacent garden compel the visitors to see it again and again. The construction on the banks of the spring as well as its surroundings of rare design. The Mughal emperor Jahangir constructed it and carvers for the purpose were brought from Iran. Construction date of the spring e.g 1029 H is duly inscribed on a stone installed at the western gate of entry towards the spring.

The spring becomes a small canal outside its bank and from there begins the river Jhelum.

Achhabal

It is important tourist spot about eight Km. away from Anantnag. The place is famous and attractive due to an ancient spring surrounded by a garden terraced and developed by the Mughal Emperor. The place has got some historical background too. The upper portion of the garden is called " Bagh-e-Begum Abad" developed by Malk-e-Noor-Jahan Begum in 1620 AD and renowned as Sahib Abad in which there was a "hamam" (Treasure of

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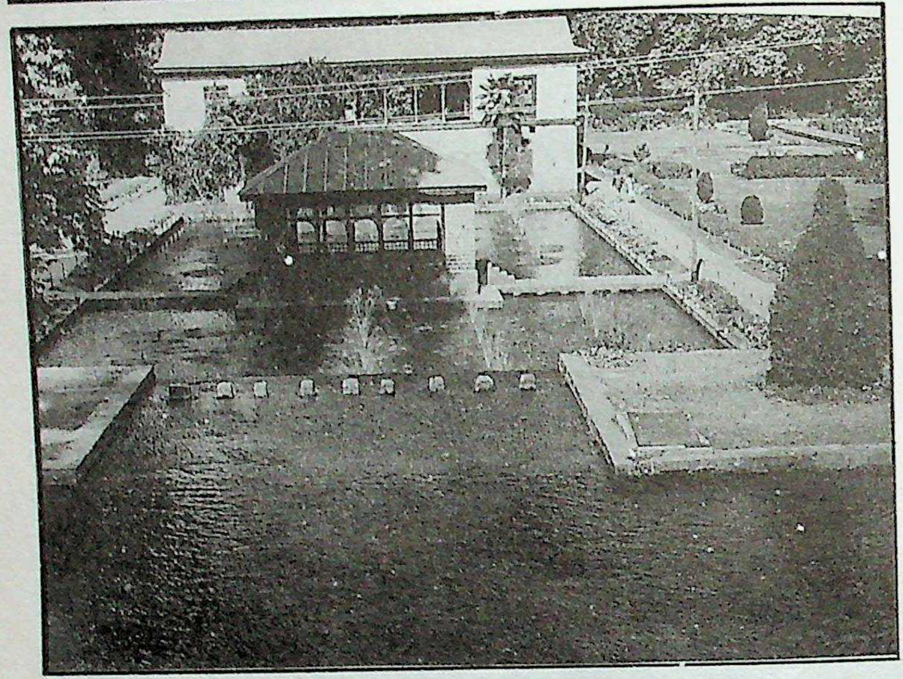


Achhabal Garden

water) getting heat from a logical lamp (tosng) . The lamp which was magically kindled was put out during repairs.

Cascades and fountains erected by Mughal emperors enhance the beauty of the spot.A mosque standing in the garden is believed to have been constructed by Mughal prince Dara Shikoh. Acchabal was once the pleasure retreat of Empress Nur Jahan. A trout hatchery is also located here.

Kokernag

Kokernag is a beautifully laid garden around a fresh water spring famous for its curative properties. The garden, 20 kms from the district headquarter is visited in summer by tourists in great numbers.

Daksum

Located in the dense forests, this scenic spot falls on the Anantnag-Simthan-Kishtwar road where a gushing stream is rich in trout fish. It is a forest retreat girdled by mountains. The surrounding forests are famous for flora and fauna.

Trekking

The environs of Pahalgam in Anantnag district offers exciting trekking opportunities. Some well known routes are:-

Pahalgam- Chandanwari- Sheshnag- Panchtarni- Amarnath- Cave-Sonamarg (7 days)

Pahalgam- Chandanwari- Sheshnag- Rangamarg- Humpet- Kanital-Lonivilad-Panikhar-Kargil (9 days). The local tourist offices provide the trekking equipment on hire.

Kolahoi glacier, 36 kms from Pahalgam, Tarsar lake, 35 kms from Pahalgam and Tulian lake are other places of enchanting beauty and consequently, of immense tourist interest.

The variety of tourists places, splendid natural beauty, heart throbing trekking lents support to the popular belief that the district has been the abode of Kamdeva the Lord of beauty.

Development Scenario

The annual plan for district Anantnag for 1997-98 had been fixed at Rs.43.08 crores envisaging an increase of 30 % over previous year's plan. Major portion of the plan had been diverted towards road communication, drinking water, health and education sectors. Out of the allocation for 1996-97 an expenditure of over Rs.36.75 crores has been made by end of March 1997. Besides, annual plan, the 20-point economic programme is under speedy progress in the district. Under this programme 3 lakh mandays have been generated, 70000 children provided immunization, 1689 houses were erected and five gujjar basites electrified.

District Plan 1997-98

(Rs.in lakhs)

S.No.	Sector	Outlay	Expenditure (Provisional)
1.	Agriculture & Allied Service	855.61	781.64
2.	Rural Development	619.15	381.00
3.	Industries	104.04	103.54
4.	Communication	530.04	507.04
5.	Energy	212.00	212.00

6.	Social & General Services	1980.47	1846.08
7.	Others	7.15	6.83
	Total	**4308.46**	**3838.13**

District Development Board Meeting

AGRICULTURE

The main crops in the district, are rice and maize in Kharif and oil-seeds in Rabi. About one lakh hectares of land have been brought under cultivation in the district. Efforts are being put to increase productivity by motivating people to adopt scientific methods of farming including use of fertilizers, improved seeds and plant production measures.

Since agriculture is the mainstay of about 80 percent population of the district, efforts are afoot to increase per capita yield of crops and bring more area under cultivation. To help the farmers increase their income, efforts are being made to motivate them to take activities related to Bee-keeping and Mushroom development. The Agriculture department is carrying out various schemes including plant protection Scheme, Special Food Production Programme, Oil seed Development Project and Package

Programme. Besides, exhibitions and fairs, farmers training camps are being arranged to introduce the farmers to modern scientific techniques of agriculture. The Agriculture Department is providing agricultural inputs and sets up demonstration plots.

In order to boost vegetable production in the district, vegetable seeds and pesticides are provided to the farmers at subsidised rates. To encourage Zeera and Saffron cultivation in the district, a scheme envisaging provision of seeds, free of cost, has been started. Under Pulse Development Scheme, seeds and fertilizers, on subsidized rates and mini kits, free of cost, are provided to farmers.

Different varieties of High yielding seeds of crops weighing 3488 quintals and 62710 tonnes of fertilizers were provided to the farmers during 1997-98.

Areas brought under different crops during kharif of 1997-98

Distribution of NYVS

Paddy	38670 hectares	Paddy of diff. kinds	173 qnt.
Maize	21000 -do-	Maize	89
Pulses	5420	Pulses	160
Fodder	2100	Fodder	4.15 Q
Vegetables	2600	Vege.	2.60
Potato	460	Potato	2.51
		Maize	2.40 Q

Plant protection

Rat Control	2900 hectares
Weed Control	31000 -do-
Cut worm	200 -do-
Aphis control	200 -do-

- 25 villages have been identified as seed villages from overall District.
- 50% subsidy has been given in distribution of 675 Q of fertilizers in kandi areas on maize crop.
- 109 demonstration plots of different crops were laid during the year sofar on scientific cultivation.
- 349 seed mini kits were distributed among farmers during same period.

- The number of mushroom growers raised to 18 in district. Number of trays has gone to 1700, 1300 spray bottles distributed. Over nine quintals of mushrooms were produced in the private sector.
- Apucykture development programme is also in progress, 95 beehives, 22 bee gloves and 200 C. F. shoots distributed.

HORTICULTURE

The district offers ideal agroclimatic conditions for cultivation of different kinds and varieties of fresh and dry fruits. About 25000 hectares of land in the district are under orchards. The annual fresh and dry fruit production is estimated to be 70000 metric tonnes and 10000 metric tonnes respectively. An amount of Rs. 40 crores is accrued to the orchardists.

Breng area of the district enjoys the monoply in production of quality walnut. Certain other areas like Kulgam and Shahabad are known for good quality of apples. New techniques of fruit cultivation and orchard maintenance are being introduced on scientific lines. To popularize this cencept among progressive orchardists of the district, more than 30 demonstration plots with high density plantation of export quality were laid using latest techniques of drip irrigation system. To revive the cultivation of famous Ambree apple in Noorabad and Breng areas, several demonstration plots were also laid.

An amount of Rs.58.17 lakhs was spent during 1996-97 on the horticulture development schemes. As many as 96641 fruit plants were produced in various nursaries. Besides distribution of 57 power sprayers, 214 foot pumps have been provided to the orchardists on subsidy rates. Over 89750 hectares of orchard area were treated under fruit protection programme during 1996-97.

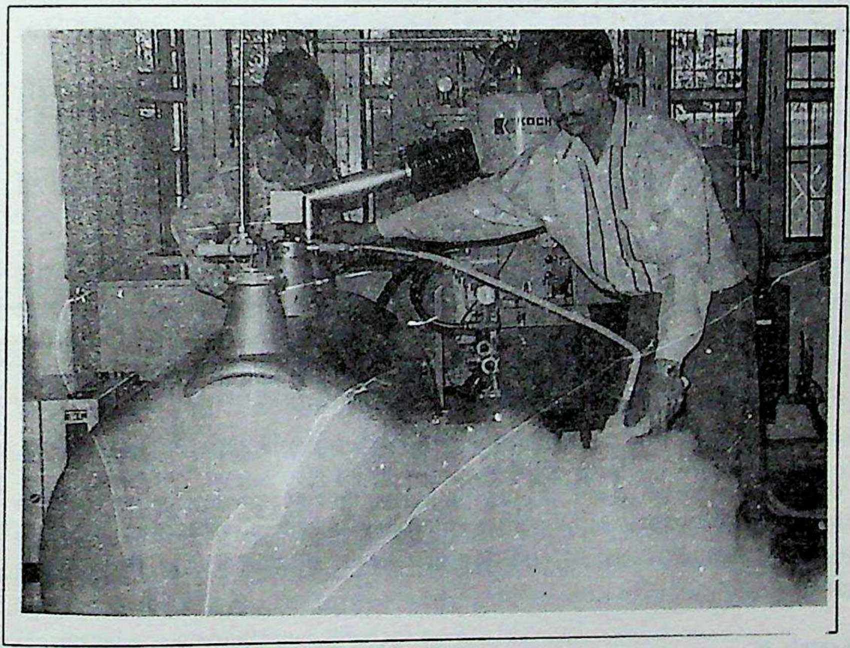
Over 3550 hectares more land have been brought under orchard development programme and applied 1647 MT of chemical fertilizers over it. Besides, 53 motor power sprays and 255 foot pumps were distributed among the orchardists on subsidy rates, more than 20,000 hectares of orchard areas were treated against various pests and diseases during 1997-98.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Live stock rearing is an important occupation of the rural population of the district. According to live stock census of 1988, the cattle population is 10.35 lakhs which include 1.24 lakh cattle of cross breed variety and 5.20 lakh poultry. As many as 53 animal husbandry institutions, 3 mobile dispensaries, 68 ICD centres and 11 frozen semen centres are functioning in the district.

Due to the efforts of Animal Husbandry department, the poultry production on commercial scale, non-existant till 1970, has come up as an organised industry. The department has set up an Intensive Poultry Project at Mattan. Eleven poultry extension centres are functioning in the district. Maize, on subsidized rates, is provided to farmers engaged in broiler production.

An amount of Rs. 34.59 lakhs had been incurred under this sector during 1996-97 against an allocation of Rs. 38.13 lakhs.



Insemination Centre

SHEEP HUSBANDRY

The annual mutton and wool production in the district is 14 lakh kgs and 5 lakh kgs respectively. As many as 71 sheep and wool extension centres are functioning in the district.

The main objective of the sheep husbandry department is to increase the wool and mutton production besides improving the quality and quantity of sheep.

Against an allocation of Rs.21.61 lakhs, over an expenditure of Rs.27.73 lakhs has been expended on the expansion programme of the sector. Efforts are underway for purchase of improved seed bearer ews for distribution among farmers. Sheep population (local and cross breed) has gone to 4.05 lakhs, goat population 0.31 lakhs, wool and muttion production recorded 5.30 lakh kgs and 16.48 lakh Kgs respectively. 1600 rams distribution among farmers during 1996-97.

EDUCATION

The district has a large network of educational institutions with 92900 students on roll. In addition, 400 part time education centres are also functioning in the district.

Against allocation of Rs.586.73 lakhs for 1996-97 an amount of Rs.405.86 lakhs has been incurred on the expension programme of the department. As many as 70000 boys and girls of primary classes have been provided mid day meals during the said period.

Primary school facilities are available with 852 primary schools having a roll of 1.02 lakh students besides 1.45 lakh students have been enrolled in various education institutions in the district. Under upgradation programme, 15 mixed primary schools have been upgraded adding 6th class to seven primary schools, 7th class to seven schools, 8th class to seven schools and upgradation of 2 middle schools to High schools and one high school to higher secondary level were proposed to be effected in 1997-98.

In addition pre-matric scholarships and free of cost text books and uniforms to the students of class Ist and IInd Pry. to the tune of Rs. 44 lakhs were given.

POWER

Under the rural electrification scheme phase I, the electrification of all the coded villages has since been completed in the district. The Central Government has granted funds to the tune of Rs. 6.63 crores for 8 new schemes at Larkipora, Damhal Hanjipora, Qaimoh, Shangus, Qazigund, Acchabal, Breng and Kulgam. Work is apace on these schemes. Against Rs. 1 crore utilized in 1996-97, an amount of Rs.1.63 crore had been proposed to be spent on the sector during 1997-98.

With a view to meet the increasing demand of power in the valley, four places were identified in the district on three source ful nallas, including

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Lidder and Vishov, during 1970s for generation of power. After the completion of the survey, construction of one mini hydel power project at Pahalgam was sanctioned by the Central Government. The work on the 4.05 MW project began in 1986 and is expected to be completed soon. On completion, the project would supply power to about 10 villages surrounding Pahalgam.

All the 645 coded villages and towns of the district, barring new hamlets and Gujjar pattis, have been electrified. However, in order to improve and expand the electricity facilities in the district, the work on eight major augmentation schemes started during 1994-95 is in full swing.

HEALTH

Anantnag district is divided into 12 medical blocks.One district hospital, 3 sub-district hospitals, 31 primary health centres, 34 allopathic dispensaries, one tuberclosis hospital, 3 subsidiary health centres, 10 medical aid centres, 164 sub-centres, one leprosy control unit and an amergancy ward are functioning in the district. There are also 40 unani dispensaries under the Indian System of Medicines.

Rs.273.71 lakhs have been spent on this sector during 1996-97 providing medicare facilities to over 4.74 lakh patients conducting 2385 sterlizations.

As many as 4.74 lakh patients have been treated.

Apart from opening of new 2 PHCs at Nowgam and Devsar, 2 new type PHCs and 18 sub-centres more were proposed to be opened under expansion programme during 1997-98. Efforts are in progress to augment the X-ray. Operation theatres and latest disease test facilities in District and Sub-District Hospitals.

DRINKING WATER

All the 645 coded villages and gujjar pattis stand provided drinking water facility. However efforts are on for augmenting this facility in towns and villages. For this purpose a few schemes are under execution with an allocation of Rs. 344.61 lakhs for 1997-98.

COOPERATIVE

Cooperative movement is playing a significent role in the district. The total number of members has gone upto 13000 while the total number of sale

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centres in the district is 243, besides one Super Bazar, one district store and 46 cooperative societies. Seven societies are functioning in the hilly and backward areas of the district. Apart from sale of other consumer items, the Cooperative department provided kerosene, sugar and fertilizers to the people on reasonable rates.

INDUSTRIES

Soon after the implementation of Single Line Administration system in the State,an independent office of District Industries Centre was established in the district with a view to generate industrial avenues and to develop small scale industrial units. The aim was also to provide gainful employment to more and more unemployed educated youths and to finance the enterprenuers by granting subsidy and other required facilities like accommodation and power etc.

At present four Industrial Estates exist in the district at Anantnag, Anchidora, Bijbehara and Kulgam, spreading over 118 kanals of land. There are 38 Government built sheds and 16 sheds constructed by the enterprenuers upon these estates. Since its inception in 1978, the Centre has registered 2500 small scale industrial units by end of March 1995, providing employment to over 15,000 educated un-employed youths.

Under Self Employment Sceheme, the centre is running seven centres of different skills aimed to provide training to female candidates. The trainees are being provided Rs.60/- per month as stipend.

An amount of Rs.44.08 lakhs has been spent on this sector during last year. During this period 217 and 53 SSI units were either provisionally or formally registered providing self employment opportunities to 1051 unemployed youth.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

The district has 1251 km roads in all, including jeepable ones. The main roads in the district are Anantnag-Shopian via Kulgam (45 Kms), Anantnag-Pahalgam (45 Kms) also connecting Chandanwari and Aru in two directions of 16 kms length each,Anantnag-Daksum Mati Gawran (46 kms) connecting with the Daksum-Symthen-Kistiwar road known as Begum Akber Jahan Road, Anantnag-Verinag-Kapran and Bijbehara-Langanbal (40 Kms). During the last seven years, about 100 large and small bridges and culverts were destroyed resulting in the disruption of communication links. Due to

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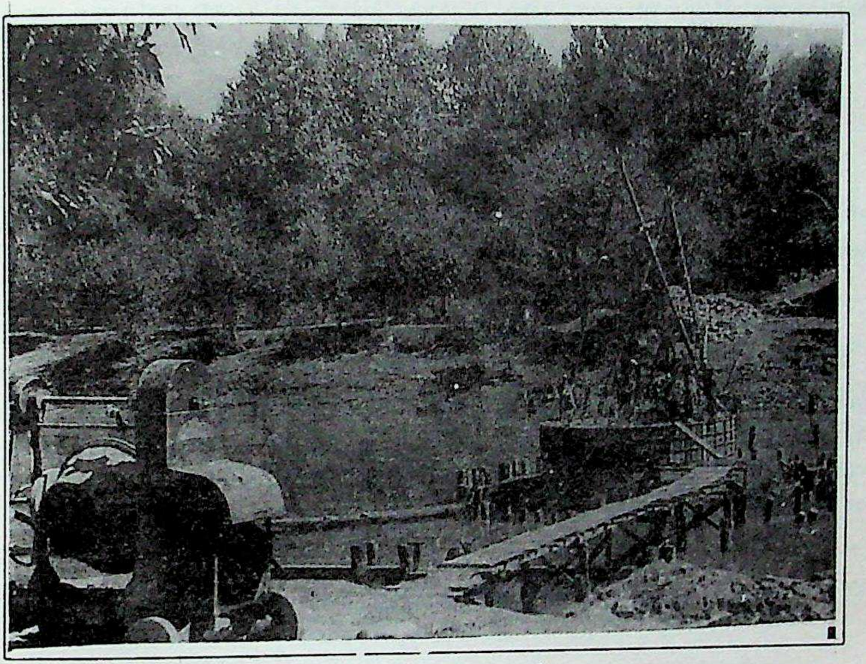
consistent efforts, all the far flung areas of the district have been connected with the district headquarter by direct or indirect routes.



Bridge under construction

An amount of over Rs.498.61 lakhs has been spent during 1996-97. Road length of over 42.75 Kms was upgraded. Out of seven important bridges 3 bridges Larkipora, Aishmuqam and Khudwani were completed resuming traffic on Anantnag-Verinag, Anantnag-Pahalgam and Anantnag-Kulgam Noorabad routes while as others are under completion. 3428 RFT have been achieved on reconstruction work over some major scale bridges and culverts.

During 1997-98, 18.50 Kms length roads were black-topped, 10.75 Kms were mettele topped and more than 17 Kms length roads were upgraded upto fairweather and jeepable conditions.

A number of major scale bridges which include Bijbehara, Ahanjipora, Larnoo, Brazloo and Nihama etc, are under speedy construction. Of these Bijbehara and Brazloo are expected to be completed and thrown open soon. Besides 4114 RFT of bridges and culverts were constructed.

SERICULTURE

There are 20 mulbery nurseries in the district spread over an area of 46 hectares where 13 to 14 lakh mulbery sapplings are planted every year. The Sericulture Department is running 155 incubation centres in the district.

An amount of Rs.16.46 lakhs was spent during 1996-97 on this sector.

FORESTS

About 2298 sq Kms or 58 per cent of the geographical area of the district is under forests.

The main object of the Government is to prevent the forests from illicit felling of trees and to curb the timber smuggling from the forests. For this purpose various protection programmes and development schemes are under way with the forest department. Besides, an extensive programme to fence the entire forest areas has been started and over 60 percent of the work has been achieved so far.

SOCIAL FORESTRY

The Social Forestry Project, aided by the World Bank and launched in the state in 1982 for a period of 5 years was later extended. The project envisages raising of fast growing tree species to meet the fuel, fodder and timber requirements of the people. The Social Forestry division in the district has been bifurcated into Anantnag, Kokernag and Qazigund ranges. The Forest Department is also putting efforts to revive the royal tree,chinar.For this purpose,chinar trees have been planted on either side of the National Highway.

Two lakh saplings provided to farmers on subsidy rates.

JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJNA (JRY)

The scheme envisages allevation of poverty in rural areas by providing employment opportunities to people living in these areas.The scheme is funded by the Central and State Governments on 80:20 basis.The other main objectives of the scheme besides generation of gainful employment is creation of infrastructure and assets propitious for economic development in rural areas.

CC-0 A... Funding by IKS-MoE-2025-Grant

Two more centrally sponsored schemes,Indira Awas Yojna and Million Well Programme have also been introduced in the district.

During 1996-97 an amount of Rs.46.37 lakhs were spent on the programme generating 4.30 lakh mandays work.

GUJJAR AND BAKARWAL WELFARE

The Gujjar and Bakarwal population in the district is about 50,000.

An amount of Rs.12.66 lakhs have been spent during 1996-97. Under this sector 5 gujjar bastis electrified during this period. Hostel accommodation provided to 50 such students.

HANDICRAFTS AND HANDLOOMS

Handicrafts and handlooms are important and job oriented sectors which generate self employment avenues for the rural youth as also increasing hand made fabrics. During 1996-97, 120 male and female candidates have received training in various crafts whileas 35 candidates are under going training in different skills at handicraft centres.

The number of cooperative societies under these sectors has gone to three and members thereof to 80 in the district.

About 38 Handicraft Training Centres are functioning in the district.

For the economic upliftment and welfare of weaver community,the Government of India is setting up Handloom Development Centres in the district with a membership of weavers. Central assistance will be provided to each centre.

The Government also provides health care to weavers.Under Education Scheme,an amount of Rs.500, Rs.700 and Rs.1,000 is provided to girl students belonging to this community studying at the levels of Primary,Middle and Matric.

IRRIGATION

Rs.3.26 crores spent on renovation and expansion programmes during 1996-97. 167 hectares of land brought under irrigation system under augmentation programme. An allocation of Rs. 304.57 lakhs had been fixed for 1997-98.

CC-0 Ag ... agam.Funding by IKS-MoE-2025-Grant

INNOVATIVE HOUSING SCHEME

A new centrally sponsored Innovative Housing Scheme has been introduced in the district during 1994-95. About 300 low cost houses were constructed involving an expenditure of Rs.45 lakhs. The houses were provided to deserving families.

EMPLOYMENT ASSURANCE SCHEME

The scheme has been introduced in 7 blocks of the district. It envisages the provision of 100 days gainful employment in off-season to all rural unemployed persons. The scheme is funded by the Centre and the State on 80:20 ratio.

Under this scheme an amount of Rs. 3.88 crores have been spent on the execution of 2433 development works in Anantnag district upto ending December 1997. Of these, 920 works which include construction of link roads, Anganwari centres and school buildings have been completed. These works have generated 1.92 lakh manday work. Out of 540 works taken up for construction, 257 works creating 60,000 mandays work have been completed at an expenditure of Rs. 1.20 crores.

66 families have been identified for construction of residential houses under Gandhi Plan and Indira Awas Yojna. For this purpose 3.30 lakhs have been earmarked for distribution among the families belonging to schedule caste and schedule tribe sects. Fifteen emergent works with an expenditure of Rs. 14 lakhs are in progress. Reconstruction of 27 gutted school building have been taken up and are nearing completion. Under Indira Awas Yojna, 252 works have been completed by the end of December 1997 involving an expenditure of Rs. 49.50 lakhs.

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Seven out of 10 blocks of the district have been identified under revamped distribution system. There are about 80,000 ration card holders in the district and rations to 5 lakh souls is being provided through 270 P.D.S. outlets. There are 5 godowns at Khanabal, Pahalgam, Matihindu, Kulgam and Damhalhanjipora for storage of foodgrains. These have a storage capacity of 20,000 qtls. Besides, 5 LPG Gas agencies at Anantnag, Kulgam, Bijbehara, Duroo and Pahalgam are also operating in the district.

TRYSEM

Under this programme training rural youth for self employment is arranged. The trainees are provided stipend during the training period.

Training at APTECH Jammu. Besides 640 persons were provided, training incomputry, typing, electronics, crewel, sozni and handloom skills during last year.

P&T

The postal net work in the district includes one post office, 20 sub-post offices, 200 branch offices, one telegraph office and 10 telephone exchanges. The augmuentation work of telephone system is apace.

BANKS

There are 78 branches of different banks operating in the district. These include J&K Bank (25 branches), State Bank of India (7 branches), Cooperative Bank (15 branches) and all Illaqai Dehati Bank (26 branches).

In addition, some private financial institutions are also operating in the district.

EMPLOYMENT

One employment exchange is functioning at the district headquarter which which registers and recommends names of unemployed youth for employment. It also deals directly with self employment schemes like Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojna.

Employment exchange and the District Industries Centres have an important role in implementing the self employment programmes by way of grant of loans on simple interest basis subsidy component to the educated unemployed youth. Under this sector an amount of Rs. 16.36 lakhs has been spent by the end of October 1997 against allocation of Rs. 64.89 lakhs had been earmarked for 1997-98. The District Industries Centre Anantnag has registered. 157 small scale industries units provisionally and 33 units formally providing employment to 836 unemployed educated youth in the district during the current year. An amount of Rs. 46.22 lakhs under DIC.

COMPERATIVE STATEMENT OF YEAR WISE EXPENDITURE (IN LAKH)

Sector	Expdt. 92-93	Expdt. 93-94	Expdt. 94-95	Expdt. 95-96	Outlay 96-97	Expdt. 96-97	Expdt. 92-97
Agriculture & Allied Service	510.82	448.79	545.97	627.42	665.23	749.97	2882.97
Rural Dev.	208.60	123.66	127.00	270.75	412.43	412.90	1142.91
Industries	70.37	64.51	73.62	82.93	90.81	100.33	389.76
Communication.	41.72	100.00	162.97	178.00	201.10		505.79
Energy	32.93	37.60	167.40	208.00	186.00	204.46	650.39
Social & Gen.Services	714.22	804.25	885.49	1062.76	1296.42	1378.43	4845.15
Others	-	1.92	4.62	3.58	3.40	6.56	16.68
Total:-	**1447.97**	**1483.34**	**1886.00**	**2299.80**	**2628.98**	**2854.31**	**9971.42**

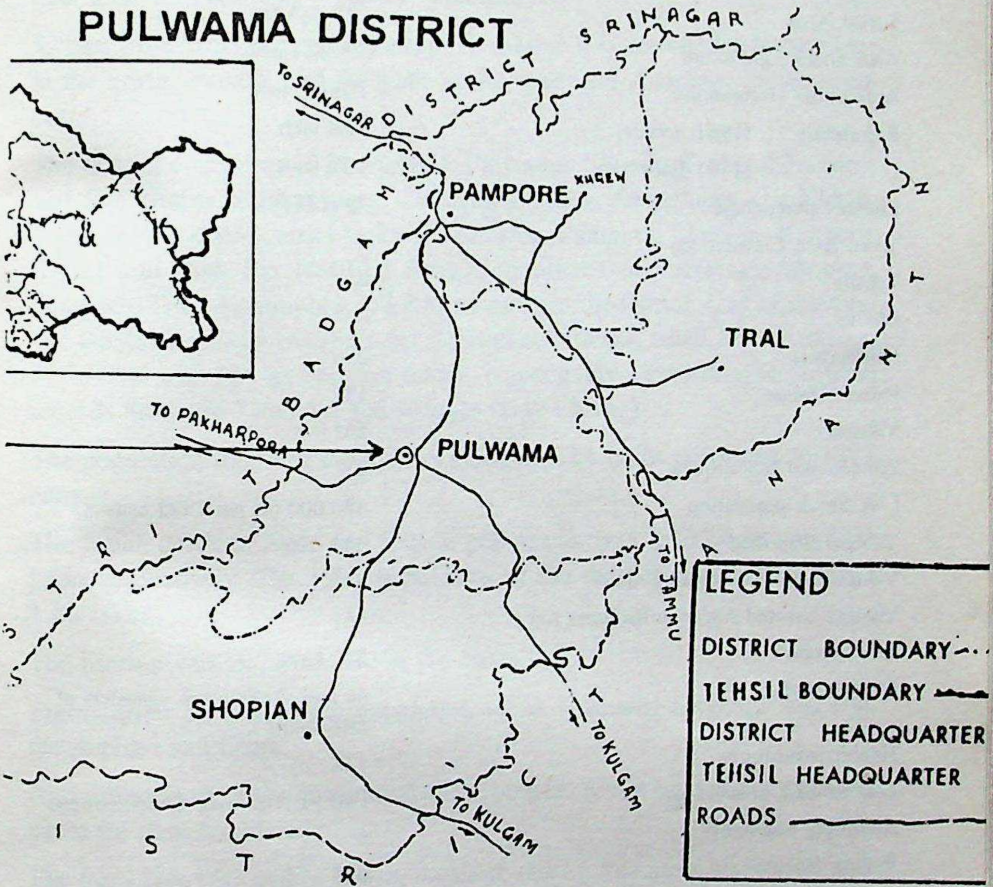
WHO'S WHO

Mr.Piyare Lal Handoo.	Law Minister
Mirza Safder Ali Beg	Minister for State Revenue.
Miss Skeena Ittoo	Dy.Minister for Education
Mr.Mohd.Yusuf Tarigami	Member of Legislative Assembly Kulgam
Mr.Ghulam Ahmed Shah	-do-Devsar
Mr.Abdul Kabir Pathan	-do-Pahalgam
Pir Abdul Rashid	-do-Kokernag
Mr.Gul RAfiquee	-do-Homshalibug
Mr.Ghulam Hassan Bhat	-do-Doru
Mr.Abdul Majid Mir	-do-Shangus
Miss Mehbooba Mufti	-do-Bijbehara
Mr.Abdul Rashid Dar	Member Legislative Council
Mr.Bhushan Lal	-do-
Mr. Shamas-ud-Din	Ex-Prime Minister
Syed Mir Qasim	Ex-Chief Minister
Mufti Mohammad Syeed	M.P.
Mr.Ghulam Nabi Kochak.	Ex-Revenue Minister.
Mr.Ghulam Rasool Kochak.	Ex-Parliament Member.
Mr. Abdul Salam Deva.	Ex- Minister
Mirza Mehboob Beg.	Ex-Health Minister.
Mohammad Akbar Ganai	Ex-Minister of State.
Mr Abdul Gani Veeri	Ex-Minister of State.
Mr.Abdul Aziz Zargar	Ex-Minister of State.
Peerzada Mohd.Syed	Ex-Minister of State.
Peer Nizamu-ud-Din	Ex-MP.
Mr.Mohi-ud-Din Shawl	Ex MP

	Telephone Nos. STD Code 01932 Office	Residence
District Development Commissioner	22337	22335
Sr.Supdt.of Police	22836	22411
Addl.Dy.Commissioner	22337	22498
Supdt.Engineer R&B	–	–
Supt.Engineer(PHE)	–	–
Supdt.Engineer, Irrigation/Flood Control	–	–
Supdt.Engineer Power Development	–	–
Chief Medical Officer	22255	22534
Distt.& Sessions Judge.	22327	–
Distt.Information Officer.	22326	–
Mr. Ghulam Mohi-ud-Din Shah	549683	
Minister for Works, Chairman, D.D.B	549692	

Snow clad mountains in Anantnag district - fascinating trekking routes

PULWAMA DISTRICT


SRINAGAR DISTRICT
TO SRINAGAR
PAMPORE
KHREW
TRAL
ANANTNAG
BADGAM DISTRICT
TO PAKHARPORA
PULWAMA
TO JAMMU
SHOPIAN
TO KULGAM
TO KULGAM
DISTRICT
LEGEND
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
TEHSIL BOUNDARY
DISTRICT HEADQUARTER
TEHSIL HEADQUARTER
ROADS

PULWAMA AT A GLANCE

Area	1398 sq.kms.
Forest Area	729 sq.kms.
Area under Agriculture	77000 Hect.
Area under Horticulture	10140 Hect.
Population (1981 census)	4.04 lakh
(1991 Est.)	5.16 lakh
Literacy percentage	22 (1981)
Town Area Committees	6
Tehsils	4
Blocks	6
Panchayats	236
Patwar Halqas	131
Villages	561
Educational Institutions.	816
Live Stock population.	480,000 (as per 1992 census)
Villages electrified.	551
Villages provided drinking water	545
Villages covered Agrarian Reforms Act	561
Road length	810 kms.
Bank branches	46 and 3 extension counters of J&K Bank
Health Institutions	174
Lok Sabha Constituency	Part of Anantnag Constituency
Assembly Segments	6
Polling Booths	408
Principal crops	Paddy,Maize,Oil seeds.
Annual Plan 1997-98	36.37 Crores

Electorate(1998)	**Total**	**Male**	**Female**
Tral	30424	23787	54211
Pampore	24191	20912	45103
Pulwama	27177	22119	49296
Rajpora	29349	23860	53209
Wachi	24251	21108	45359
Shopian	25215	21726	46941
Total	**160605**	**133514**	**294119**

Pulwama district was carved out of Anantnag district way back in 1979. The total ographical area of the district is 1398 sq kms. of which 729 sq kms area are covered by forests. The district,

32 kms from Srinagar, lies in the south Kashmir. It is surrounded by Srinagar in the north, Poonch and Budgam in the west and Anantnag in the south east.

The district comprises of four tehsils Pulwama, Shopian,Tral and Pampore and five Niabts of Shadimarg, Zainapora, Litter, Awantipora and Khrew. There are six community blocks of Pulwama, Pampora, Shopian, Kakpora, Keller and Tral. Six Notified Area Committees of Pulwama, Shopian, Pampore, Tral, Awantipora and Khrew exist in thedistrict. Out of the total 561 inhabited villages of the district, 219 fall in Pulwama tehsil, 29 in Pampore, 82 in Tral and 124 in Shopian tehsils respectively. According to revenue records there are 7 uninhabited villages (Bay Chirag).

The population figure of the district stood at 4.04 lakhs according to 1981 census.

The break down of male and female population was 2.10 lakhs and 1.94 lakhs respectively. The 1991 population of the district is estimated to be 5.16 lakhs.

The literacy rate is 22 percent in the district.

Eighty-eight percent of the population speak Kashmiri language and rest speak phari and Gujri.

Agriculture is the main occupation of the people. While a small number rear cattle for their livelihood.

The main crops are paddy, maize, mustard, pulses. Fodder is also cultivated in Rabi season. Pampore area is dotted with the Saffron fields. The famous apple "Ambree" is also grown here.

HISTORY

According to revenue records, the original name of Pulwama was Panwangam which comprised four pattis namely Malikpora, Dangerpora, Chatpora and Dulipora. The pattis contine to be known by these names. At some stage Panwangam became to be called as Pulgam which with the passage of time changed to the present name of Pulwama. The district and the district headquarters both are known as Pulwama. It has a rich cultural and historical background with legendary people having born and brought up in the district and ancient kings choosing the area as their capital. The 9th century Kashmir ruler, Awanti Varma founded Awantipora as his capital city. The remains of the city are still located at a site of 28 kms from Srinagar in the form of Awanti Swami temple ruins on the left side of the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway. The archaeological monuments at Awantipora, Jawbrari, Kakapora, Norastan in Tral and other places signify the rich history of the district. Awanti Verma (854-83 A.D) was a great patron of art and culture. Besides Awanti Swami temple, he built another one, about a kilometer away at Jawbrari. The temples were circled by artifical lakes. After the death of the king, his son, Shanker Verma, ascended the throne and retained Awantipora as his capital. He conquered many area and extended his kingdom beyond Kashmir with his large army raised from the local people.

The district is also the birth place of various legends and legendaries. The famous love legend, Heemal-Naagrai, is believed to have taken birth here. Nagrai was a serpent prince who fell in love with a damsel, Heemal. The spring where the lovers weaved their lovelife is found near Shopian, an important town of the district.

Legendary mystic poetess, LALDEED, was born at Padmanpora now Pampore a village of Pulwama district. Her verses taught universal brotherhood and monotheism. Lal Ded's poetry, translated into various languages transcended the boundaries of Kashmir. Another greatest poetess of repute with melodious women sensibilities, HABBA KHATOON who rose to be the queen of Kashmir after her wedlock with king Yusuf Shah Chak also belonged to a village of the Pulwama district near Pandrethan of today before she shifted to the royal palace. The district is also the birthplace of the revolutionary poet, Mahjoor.

Ghulam Ahmed Mehjoor: Popularly known as Shair-e-Kashmir (The poet of Kashmir) was born at Mitrigam. His poetry served as a beacon light during the Quit Kashmir Movement of 1940's and made him a houshold name. Mahjoor is the only poet of Kashmir to have risen to the heights of a legend in his lifetime. Rabindra Nath Tagore has shown keen interest in his poetry after he had gone through one of his translated pieces.

Wahab Khar and Soccha Kral are two other great names in the Kashmir mystic poetry to have been born in Pulwama district.

Mughal Road: A great deal of historical significance of the district lies in the famous Mughal Road, passing through the disrict, across the Pir Panjal.

The Mughal kings, after whom the road is known used this route to visit Kashmir via Shopian. A sarai at Shadi Marg, now in ruins is still a witness to the grandeur of the Mughal caravans passing through the road. One of the tributaries of river Jhelum, Nallah Rambara, flows through the district before joining the river at Sangam.

MONUMENTS AND SHRINES

The Awanti Aishwar temple at Jawbrari is the significant monument present in the district. The temple was built by Raja Awanti Verma in the 9th century A.D. when they chose the place as his capital instead of Srinagar. The ruins of the temple are found at Jawbrari, 28 kms from Srinagar. The Capital city is believed to have been built around the temple site. The king had constructed the temple after ascending the throne. The excavation of the temple took place in 1914-16, under the supervision of Daya Rama Sahni,which also unearthed some coins of both Hindu and Muslim rule. The Awanti Aishwar temple was meant for common people.

AWANTISWAMI TEMPLE

Popularly known as Paandav Lari, the Awanti Swami temple, situated on the left side of the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway on the bank of river Jhelum at Awantipora, is another monument of the Raj Awantipora Varma's time. The temple was constructed by the king before ascending the throne and is smaller in size than the Awanti Aishwar temple. According to Henery Cole, the temple must have been constructed between 852-54 A.D. Hugal believes that Awanti Swami is the Buddhist temple while Cole and Lawrence say it is a Shiva temple. However, according to the Koshur Encyclopaedia the temple is a Vishnu temple. Raja Jai Singh's commander Bhasan is believed to have used the temple as a fortress during a rebellion against him, in the 12th century A.D. Upto 1915 the temple was partly underground when it was fully unearthed during excavations supervised by Daya Ram Sahni.

THE PAYER TEMPLE

Payer temple is situated about 3 kms in the south of Pulwama district headquarters in the foot of the Koil kerewa. The temple is known after the village, Payer, where it is situated Vigne, Cunningham and some other travellers call it Payech temple. It is not known who constructed the temple and when. The temple is architecturally close to the Pandrethan temple. The roof of the temple comprises ten stones.

The temple at Naristan is Tral town and another at Koil, 5 kms from the district headquarters, are two other hindu shrines.

The district has many muslim shrines where devotees in large number pay their obeisance. The notable among these include:

ASAR SHARIEF PINTOORA

The shrine is the most revered religious place in the district situated 12 kms from Pulwama. The shrine houses the holy relic of Prophet Mohammad (Peace Be Upon Him) which is displayed on special occasions associated with the life of the Prophet (PBUH). On such occasions, people in thousands visit the shrine to have the glimpse of the holy relic.

THE SHRINE OF SHAH HAMDAN

Situated in Tral town, the shrine is believed to have been built by Mir Syed Ali Hamdani. People in large numbers throng the shrine on annual festival associated with the saint.

THE ZIARAT OF HAZRAT MIR MOHAMMAD HAMDANI

Situated in Tral Pain in the main town of Tral is another important muslim shrine in the district. It is a mosoleum of Mir Mohammad Hamdani, the illustrious son of Mir Syed Ali Hamdani. A holy relic of Hazrat Abu Bakar Sidiq, one of the four important companions of the Prophet (PBUH) is displayed at the shrine on special occasions.

JAMA MASJID SHOPIAN

The mosque is said to have been built during the Mughal period. Shopian was an important stopover on the Mughal road across the Pir Panjal used by the Mughals to visit Kashmir. Five time prayers are held in the mosque and on Fridays people in large number respond to the call of the Mouzin and bow before the Almighty.

Three other important muslim shrines are situated at Awantipora and Pampore, the saffron town. These are shrines of Syed Hussan Mantaqi, Mir Mohammad Hamdani and Namat Ullah Shog Baba Sahab. The shrines command great respect of people. Annual Urs are also held at the shrines.

PLACES OF TOURIST INTEREST

The Pulwama district has some beautiful tourist spots, the famous among which are:

Aharbal

The place, 35 kms from Shopian, is famous for an impressive waterfall formed by river Vishav falling from a height of 24.4 meters. The waterfall is horribly beautiful. The place is surrounded by Fir forests.

Kungwattan

A charming meadow, is 8 kms from Aharbal. There is no motorable road to the meadow. However, ponies can be hired to reach the place.

Naqberan

Situated about 2 kms from the town of Tral, Naqberan is a place of scenic beauty visited by the lovers of nature.

Shikargah

Developed as an attractive tourist spot, Shikargah is situated about 3 kms from Tral. Maharaja Hari Singh used to visit the place for game purposes (wild life).

Hurpora

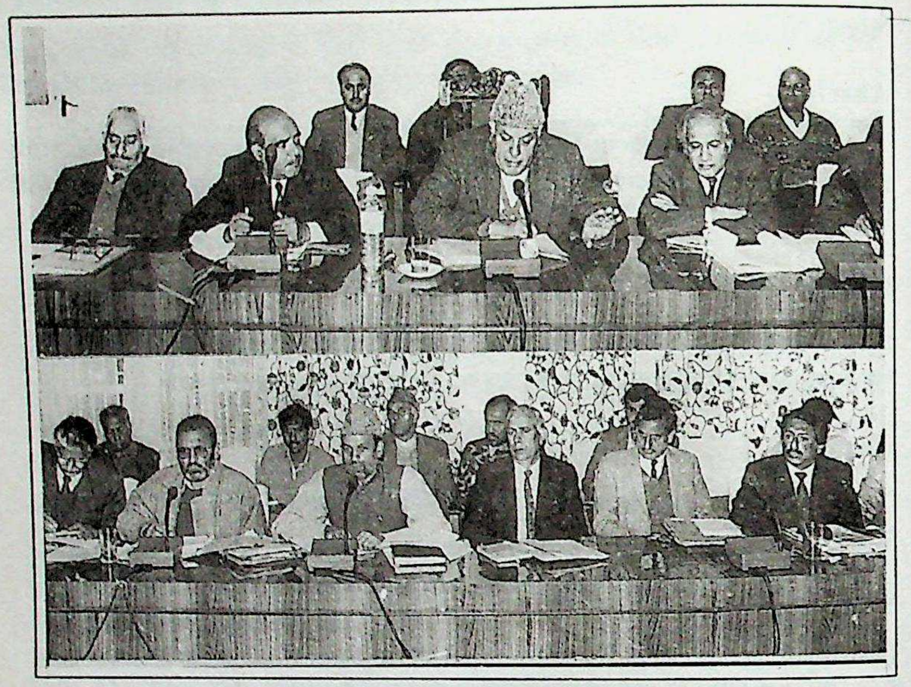
About 12 kms from Shopian, Hurpora commands a beautiful secnic view. The place is situated on the historical Mughal Road and is accessible by a car or a bus.

Tarsar and Marsar

There are two lakes in the district viz, Tarsar and Marsar, situated in the high mountains about 3 kms and 5 kms respectively from Nagberan.

DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

Ever since Pulwama district came into existence in 1979, it has made big strides in the overall development. Developmental and welfare schemes were introduced and implemented successfully with the spontaneous participation of the people. Every year substantial amounts are laid out for different schemes to make sure that the district marches on the road to progress and prosperity along with other districts of the State.



District Development Board Meeting

The annual plan allocation have witnessed a marked increase. The plan allocations have been more than doubled from Rs.17.11 crore in 1991-92 to Rs. 36.37 crore during 1997-98.

The developmental process got a shot in the arm with the elected government headed by Dr.Farooq Abdullah comming to power with a massive mandate. The government got in to gear the administration for speedy solution of the problems which had piled up in the last 8 years. The government put the development process high on its priority agenda and put in every effort to resuscitate it. The popular government rekindled new hopes among the masses for their welfare.

District Plan 1997-98

(Rs.in lakhs)

S.No.	Sector	Outlay	Expenditure (Provisional)
1.	Agriculture & Allied Services	734.07	667.90
2.	Rural Development	457.76	390.22

3.	Industries	84.67	86.89
4.	Communication	418.79	418.28
5.	Energy	371.00	361.76
6.	Social & Gen.Services	1564.90	1501.39
7.	Others	5.98	17.75
	Total:	**3637.17**	**3445.19**

Giving a big push to development efforts by infusing large sums of money and associating the elected representatives and the people at grass roots proved rewarding and the joint efforts of the administration and the people made the wheels of progress move. The benefits of the welfare and development schemes began to reach directly to the people.

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is mainstay of the district. The govenment has attached high priority to its development in an intergrated manner. Allocation for 1996-97 stood at Rs.1.31 crore and Rs. 4.9 corers for 1997-98.

Out of the total cultivated area of more than 97600 hectares, 59000 hectares are sown with crops. Most of the area yield double crop. The paddy, maize and pulses are grown in the Kharief and mustard, fodder, saffron and peas are grown in Rabi season. Saffron, the pride produce of the district is cultivated on 4000 hectares, particularly on the Karewas of Pampore tehsil. High yielding varities of paddy are sown on an area of 31000 hectares and 200 hectares are under maize crop. Pulses are grown on 2300 hectares while fodder and vegetables are sown on 2150 hectaes and 2180 hectares respecively.

Tribal Sub-Plan: A number of measures have been taken to boost production in the tribal areas populated by Gujjars and Backerwals under the.tribal sub-plan. These communities are provided kits of high yielding varities of maize and pulses on 50 percent subsidy. Besides 1000 fertilizer kits each weighting 10 kgs were provided on 50 percent subsidy to them. Attention was also paid to increase the yield in the rainfed areas by providing proper fertilizer doses. In this connection 8000 fertilizer kits on 50 percent subsidy were supplied to the farmers.

Horticulture: Horticulture is one of the main occupations in the district. The climatic conditions of the district are ideal for growing fruits. The orchards have been laid out over an area of 10140 hectares. The tasty and fragrant "Ambri" apple is grown in the Shopian area.

A project to produce a new hybrid apple was launched in collaboration with Bulgaria at Zainpora, Shopian some years back. The new specie gives high yield than the traditional one.

The Horticulture Department provides spray pumps to the orchardists who are educated on combating the diseases that afflict the trees. The govenment spent Rs.55.50 lakhs for the development of this sector in 1996-97.

The target of covering an area of 230 hectares under dry fruits was achieved. Two demonstration plots of strawberries, consisting of one kanal each, were laid out under the Development of special rare and minor fruits programme. Eight thousand five hundred hectares orchard area was brought under the plant protection.

The orchardists are provided fruit plants, pesticides and fencing material on 75 percent subsidy. The orchardists were provided 73000 fruit plants from the departmental nurseries.

Animal Husbandry: The Animal Husbandry has achieved remarkable success in bringing about genetic improvement in the local cattle by crossing it with Jersey and Holstin breed. Eighty five percent of the cattle population has been transferred into cross-breed. The latest technology of frozen semen was also introduced in the 90 percent veterinary institutions which resulted in the healthy and robust progeny. One hundred twenty seven veterinary institutions provide extensive health cover to 2.12 lakh heads of cattle, 3000 buffaloes and 4 lakh poultry birds.

The district rightly takes pride in being known as "Anand" of Kashmir. Annual Milk production has touched a high of 900 lakh liters in 1996-97 against 648 lakh liters in 1992-93. This works out production of 2.50 lakh liters a day agains 1.80 lakh liters per day in 1992-93. A large quantity of the milk is supplied to Srinagar city and the Cooperative Milk Federation, Cheshmashahi, Srinagar.

Tribal Sub-Plan: Full care of the requirements, to bring genetic improvement in the buffaloe flocks of the Gujjar and Bakerwal communities is taken under the tribal sub-plan. The department made available two Murrah buffalo bulls at the veterinary centre Keller.

The department launched a special livestock breeding programme under which subsidy at the rate of Rs.90 to Rs.120 per quintal on nutritive feed is provided to beneficiaries. A subsidy of Rs.23.26 lakhs on the supply of

2164 quintals of nutritive feed to 1452 calves was paid from the inception of the programme.

Poultry sector has also made a headway. One hundred forty two poultry units were established under the poultry development programme in the backward areas. Moreover, 53 poultry units were registered under the Extension programme. The poultry farming being an income generating occupation, the educated youth are provided technical guidance for setting up their own units. Poultry farms in the private sector are provided medicines on 50 percent subsidy.

The Department spent Rs.56.22 lakh on different promotional activities under this sector in 1996-97.

Sheep Husbandary: Phenomenal increase has been recorded in the cross bred sheep in the district. The sheep population has risen to 2.33 lakhs. This includes 1.10 lakh cross bred sheep. The increase in sheep population was brought about by sustained health cover and other related services to the sheep rearers. Recently imported corriedale sheep from New Zeland will help further to improve productivity of cross bred flocks in the district.

The annual mutton and wool production reached to 10.50 lakh kgs and 3.33 lakh kgs as these are primary objectives of the department. Locally developed cross-bred corriedale Ram and Ewe of Shoipian bagged first prize in the Northern livestock show at Ludhiana in 1996. The owner was awarded cash prize and certificate. Corriedale sheep farm Shopian also won first position in the All India Livestock show at Karnal in 1995.

About 500 rams of superior genetic potential were produced in the field for up-gradation of local flocks. The breeding strategy is to introduce Marine blood in the plains and corriedals in the hilly areas of Shopian and Keller.The sheep breeding farm Zawoora produces sizeable number of rams for introduction in the field.

The success of intensive sheep development programme inter-alia depends on adequate provision of effective health cover. More than two lakh dosings and vaccinations were administered against the target of 1.70 lakhs. A network of 44 sheep extension centers provides health cover to sheep flocks in 561 villages of the district.

Tribal Sub-Plan: Tribal areas witnessed a spurt in sheep development. A string of 40 sheep units was set up at a cost of Rs.3.40 lakhs under the tribal sub-plan in the tribal areas of the district. A cash incentive of RS.40,000 was paid to the sheep breeders for repairing their sheds and cost of feeding. Two training camps were organised to educate sheep breeders on benefits of adopting scientific methods for sheep rearing and timely dosing and vaccanation of sheep flocks to ensure that flocks remain healthy, productive and free from diseases.

TRYSEM and DWCRA; Girls belonging to economically weaker sections are imparted training in different crafts like crewel and sozni to enable them to fend for themselves under the TRYSEM programme. About 200 girls were imparted training in 118 craft centres in the district. The trainees are paid monthly stipend and cost free raw material. An amount of Rs.2.91 lakhs was spent for the purpose. An amount of Rs.44.00 lakhs has been allocated during 1997-98 for the sector.

More than 238 units were established under IRDP by the District Rural Development Agency. The subsidy component for these units was of the order of about Rs.13.74 lakhs. These units include diary, sheep, Saffron, Power sprayer pump sets, retail trade and horses with carts.

Improving of living condition of rural women and children was focal point under the Development of Women and Children of Rural Areas (DWCRA) scheme. Twenty eight groups, each consisting of 15 women, were formed in the district. Each group receives financial assistance of Rs.15000 for starting small scale units like sozni, crewel making and Zari.

More than 180 boys were imparted training in computer handling under the 20-point programme in the district. Financial assistance amounting to Rs.18.40 lakhs was provided to 247 beneficiaries. An amount of Rs.72.60 lakhs was spent on IRDP, TRYSEM and DWCRA by District Development Agency in 1996-97.

J.R.Y: Jawahar Rozgar Yojna aims at bettering lot of the economically down-trodden sections of the society, has been receiving due attention of the government.

An amount of Rs.7.52 crore was allocated for the programme in the district during 1997-98. Of this, Rs.6.21 crores were spent on different employment generating works in the district. The works completed under the programme included construction of rural roads, culverts, drinking water wells, irrigation khuls, flood protection works, renovation of ponds and springs and works of fencing and construction of ghats.

Indira Awas Yojna: The programme promises to provide residential houses at low cost to the down-trodden people. One thousand low-cost houses were constructed and handed over to the beneficiaries during 1995-96. These houses were constructed at a cost of Rs.51 lakhs.

Employment Assurance Scheme: The scheme has been launched to provide employment to the people in rural areas for at least 200 days a year. The scheme has been introduced only recently in the district. As many as 914 development works were taken up during 1996-97. Of these, 545 works were completed at a cost of Rs.2.45 crores. These works generated 5 lakh mandays. The works completed included 197 rural roads, 58 culverts and 13 school buildings.

Health: Concerted efforts are being made to achieve the goal of health - for-all by 2010 A.D. The sector has been receiving high priority. Gradual increase in the allocations has enabled the Health Department to provide better health care facilities to the people. Against the allocation of Rs.190.67 lakhs for 1996-97 an amount of Rs.364.82 lakhs was provided for 1997-98. The number of health institutions in the district has risen to 174. These include one district hospital, two sub-district hospitals, 19 primary health centres, 26 allopathic dispensaries, one subsidairy health centre and 125 sub-centres. About 4.48 lakh outdoor and indoor patients were treated in 1996-97. More than 2300 major and minor operations were performed. Over 4000 cases were provided x-ray facilities in the district and sub-district hospitals during 1996-97. Third dose of polio was given to over 17000 children. Similarly,16000 children were immunized against various diseases. BCG first dose was administered to 19000 children. More than 14000 pregnant women were protected against tetanus. Vitamin doses were given to about 13000 children. Construction of IPD block in district hospital at Pulwama was completed at a cost of Rs.75 lakhs. Construction of 25 sub-centres under the India population project is in progress. To ensure un-interrupted electric supply, a generator-set was installed at district hospital Pulwama at a cost of over Rs.13 lakhs.

Education: The present government attaches high priority to the resuscitation of the educational system. All out efforts are being made to spread the education in every nook and corner of the district. Emphasis has been laid on opening new educational institutions so that children have not to foot longer distances. Eleven primary schools were opened during 1996-97 in the district. One high school was upgraded to higher secondary school, two lower high schools to high schools. The 6th class was added to 6 primary schools, 7th class was added to 5 schools and 8th class was added to 5 schools.

The literacy rate is 22 percent in the district. But with the expanding educational facilities the literacy rate is likely to go up. The district has a total of 816 educational institutions. These include two Degree Colleges, 61 Higher Secondary Schools, 56 High Schools, 135 Middle Schools and 562 Primary Schools. More than 70 percent schools are housed in government buildings. Rs.19.50 lakhs were earmarked for the reconstruction of the school buildings gutted during militancy. Forty such school buildings were reconstructed in 1994-95 at a cost of Rs.73 lakhs. Sixty-three school buildings were taken up for construction at a cost of Rs. 1.20 crore. Out of these 38 school buildings have been completed.

Merit scholarships of Rs.3.46 lakhs were provided to 2180-school children. Uniforms were provided to 39182 students involving a cost of RS.20 lakhs. Students belonging to Gujjar and Bakerwal communities were provided scholarships to the tune of RS.1.68 lakhs under Tribal sub-plan.

Industries: Phenomenal increase has been recorded in setting up industrial units. The number of functional industrial units went up to 1179 by the March,1997 providing employment to 750 persons against 143 units in 1980-81. The Govt. spent Rs.34.96 lakhs on providing different facilities to entreprenuers in 1996-97.

The Industries Centre registered formally 485 small scale industrial units and 135 units provisionally during 1996-97. Entrepreneurs and educated un-employed youth are provided industrial know-how under the single roof for the promotion of small villages and cottage industries.

The Industries Centre recommended 83 cases with an amount of RS.134.12 lakhs for financial assistance to different financial institutions during 1996-97. There are two industrial estates, one at Pulwama and the other at Shopian. The centre has acquired 98 kanals of land at Chatpora, Pulwama for developing industrial areas. Plots were allotted to 42 entreprenuers in the industrial estate. The centre plans to establish mini-industrial estates in Pampore and Tral blocks during the 9th five year plan.

The Industries centre runs six Machine Knitting Training centres to impart training in knitting to women. More than 2300 female candidates have been trained in these centres so far. The centre spent Rs.6.26 lakhs as stipend to the trainees from the inception of these centres.

The Industries centre runs three knitting centres under the Tribal sub-plan with an enrollment of 60 female tribal trainees in the district.

The Industries centres located in the Shopian, Keller and Tral blocks populated by Gujjar and Bakerwals have proved a boon to tribal girls as they became skilled in the craft of knitting. Each trainee is paid a stipend of Rs.60/- per month during the training period of 6 months.

Fishries: Fishries sector has witnessed phenomenal progress in the district. Four fish farms have been set up in the district. Different species of fish like, Rainbow, Trout, Tout Salmo, Gairdnesi are reared in these farms for multiplication and fast growing variety of common carb fish.

To improve the living standards of fishermen a number of welfare schemes have been launched in the district. They are provided nylon thread for weaving nets free of cost.

The fishermen are covered under Janta Accidental Insurance Scheme for which premium is paid by the State and the Central government on 50:50 basis. The District Rural Development Department provides tool kits to the fishermen. The kit consists of tube balance with weight and terpoline. The centrally sponsored fishermen welfare scheme has also been introduced in the district for the construction of houses for houseless fishermen. The Fishries Department allotted RS.1.75 lakhs for construction of houses during 1996-97.

A housing colony consisting of five houses is under construction at Changrigam,Tral where the house-less fishermen of this village will be settled.

Handicrafts: A number of incentives and an array of facilities are provided to the boys and girls who undergo training in handicrafts. The Handicrafts Department has set up 23 handicraft centres in the district for imparting training in sozni, crewel, chain stitch, stapple, zari, Namda, wood carving, carpet and Gabba-making. During 1996-97,556 trainees were trained in these centres of the district. An amount of Rs.10.20 lakhs was spent on stipend to the trainees. Handicraft goods worth Rs.1.72 lakhs were produced in these centres in 1996-97 against production worth Rs.96,000 during 1995-96. The department has registered 174 handicraft units sofar. Besides, 12 handicarft societies were also registered.

Handlooms: A separate department has been created for the development of Handloom sector. It also aims at training rural youth in weaving, sharping their skills in weaving and to organise traditional weavers under cooperative societies.

More than 20 lakh meters of fabrics valued at Rs.21.80 crore were produced during 1996-97. The department runs 3 cooperative societies with a membership of 150 weavers formed under the centrally sponsored scheme for Establishment of Handloom Development centres during the last financial year.

These schemes envisage improving economic condition of handloom weavers by providing them financial assistance.

Social Welfare: The government has committed it-self to the welfare of the poor, backward and down-trodden sections of the society. It has been striving at lifting these people from the morass of the poverty. An array of schemes has been launched to ensure that the benefits flow directly to them so that they can also live free from want.

The social welfare department has been doing a sterling job for the welfare of poorer sections. The old age persons, destitutes and widows are provided financial assistance for their sustenance under the integrated social security scheme. An amount of Rs.99 lakhs was spent for providing financial assistance to 7230 persons during 1996-97.

The district has been brought with-in the purview of the activities of the development of scheduled tribes and other backward classes corporation way back in 1994-95. The corporation provides subsidy and margin money on the loans advanced by the banks. The corporation makes available training subsidy and margin money to the skilled and trained members of the scavenger community for setting up their income generating units. This incentive has been given to 15 cases during 1996-97. The corporation is also working as an channelizing agency for the direct financials to the members of the community to enable them to avail of the loaning facility. Thirty-nine cases were approved under the National Minorities Financial Development corporation for the trades like photocopier, tailoring, carpentry and auto rikshaw.

Militancy Victims Rehabilitation: A District Level Committee has been set up for the rehabilitation of the militancy victims. The committee has been assigned the task of identifying militancy victims. In this connection, the committee seeks assistance of the District Screening Committee and other departments.

The Committee identified more than 200 militancy victim cases and submitted a detailed action plan for their rehabilitation to the government.

The council for rehabilitation of militancy victims released Rs.2 lakhs for providing medical aid, old age pension widow pension and scholarship to orphans in favour of 100 cases during 1996-97.

The department paid Rs.22000 as pre-matric scholarships to 174 physically handicapped students. Besides, 1821 students of other Backward classes were given Rs.4.40 lakhs as pre-matric scholarships. An amount of Rs.10,000 was paid to 47 students belonging to down trodden sections as reimbursement of fee. In order to encourage the students belonging to scavenger communities, Rs.17,000 were paid as scholarship to 152 students. Financial assistance of Rs.34,000 was provided to 97 fishermen for providing thread for the fishing nets. Twelve handicapped persons were provided Rs.44,000 for the purchase of artificial limbs. Besides, 236 physically handicapped persons were provided orthopaedic appliances like crutches, tricycles, wheel chairs, molded shoes and orthopaedic limbs.

ICDS: The disrict has been divided into five Integrated Child Development Blocks to serve the nutritional needs of the children, pregnant women and nursing mothers.

About 18000 children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years were provided nutritive food for the nourishment. Over 4500 pregnant women and nursing mothers were also covered under the programme through 587 Anganwari Centres. An amount of Rs.60 lakhs was spent on the scheme during the year 1996-97.

Forests: The Forests are spread over an area of 729 sq. kms. The Government has launched a massive afforestation programme for the rehabilitaion of the dagraded forests. The conservation of forests has assumed greater significance in view of maintaining ecological balance. The Forest Department planted 59000 trees on 58 hectares under the rehabilitaion of degraded forests.

The Social Forestry Project aims at easing pressure on forests by planting trees on vacant lands to make available fuel and timber to the people. An area of 376 hectares was covered with plantations of about 4 lakh trees in 1996-97. The project maintains 14 plant nurseries in the district.

Pasture development is one of the objectives of the project. It developed an area of 35 hectares of pasture land during the year 1996-97.

Cooperatives: The cooperatives play a key role under the Public Distribution System in providing essential commodities to the people in rural areas and help a great deal in holding the prices. The Cooperative Department has set up a net work of 56 cooperatives including District Cooperative Whole Sale Store, seed and vegetable cooperative marketting and processing society. Farmers Welfare Agriculture Cooperative Society, women's Cooperative Consumers/Store and Saffron Growers Cooperative Society. 67000 qtls of different fertilizers were made available by the cooperative societies to the farmers worth RS.2.54 crore during the year 1996-97. Consumer goods valued at Rs.3.18 crore were supplied to the consumers in the rural areas in the district during 1996-97. The department constructed three godowns at Pastna in Tral, Qazigund near Kakapora and Neelora. With the construction of these godowns, the number of godowns has gone up to 126 having a storage capacity of 7450 tons.

P.D.S: The Public Distribution System existed long back in Kashmir but it was confined to Srinagar city only. Keeping in view, the growing needs of the people, the network of public distribution system was widened to cover the rural areas. The Food and Supplies Department handles the procurement and distribution of food grains in the district. It provides food grains through its 183 depots to 5.17 lakh people on the basis of projected rationed population of 1991. The town ration is supplied at the rate of 11 kgs of rice per head and muffasil ration is given at the rate of 5 kgs per head. Besides, flour and wheat are also provided to the rationees.

The cooperatives distribute sugar and kerosene under the public distribution system through its 47 outlets in the distict.

One godown with a storage capacity of 1500 metric tons already exist at the district head quarters. Another godown of the same capacity is in the final stage of completion.

Besides, two godowns having storage capacity of 250 metric tons each exist at Hawal and Tral. While another godown having a storage capacity of 500 metric tons exist in Shopian.

Irrigation: Efforts are being made to provide perennial irrigation facilities for bringing more areas under cultivation. Nineteen irrigation schemes were taken up for execution during 1996-97. Out of these, four schemes were completed by the end of March 1997 at a cost of over Rs.4.9 crore providing irrigation facilites to an area of 15316 acres.

Power: In order to stablise the distribution system of electricity, seven distribution sub-stations were constructed at a cost of Rs.57 lakhs. These stations cover 24 villages in different parts of the district.

Self Employment: The Employment Exchange arranged loans from different financial institutions to the tune of Rs.103 lakhs for 102 cases during the year 1996-97. The district Industries centre sponsored 36 cases for setting up income generating units by the educated unemployed youth. Various banks advanced loans of Rs.32 lakhs for these units uder PMRY. The DIC released interest subsidy of Rs.2.10 lakhs in favour of 57 entrepreneurs during 1996-97 under the scheme.

Rural Sanitation: In order to provide cleaner environs and improve hygenic conditions in the rural areas, a massive programme of Rural Sanitation has been launched in the district. As many as 670 house hold and institutional latrines were built at a cost of Rs.9.93 lakhs in a number of villages during 1996-97. Besides, 96 bathing plateforms for cattle were also constructed.

Sericulture: Sericulture is a subsidiary occupation of the people in the district. It has made a headway with the adoption of latest techniques of cocoon rearing. The Sericulture department has distributed 1649 ounces of seed among the cocoon rearers during 1996-97. There has been a gradual increase in the production which stood at 37000 kgs in 1996-97 against 25000 kgs in 1995-96. It fetched the cocoon rearers an income of Rs.19 lakhs. The department maintains 16 nurseries for raising mulberry saplings for distribution among cocoon rearers. More than 1.15 lakh mulberry saplings were provided during 1996-97 from these nurseries free of cost.

Roads and Bridges: Road communication has been attached high priority as it is key to every economic activity. The district has a total road length of 821 kms at present. Almost all roads are black topped. 7 kms road length was black topped in 1996-97. Besides,35 kms long roads were shingled in 1996-97. Culverts of 172 RFT and cross drainage of 6200 RFT were constructed in 1996-97.

The Kakapora Bridge the life line of the Pulwama district was thrown open to traffic. Similarly, the construction of Pohu bridge was completed and thrown open to traffic. These bridges were constructed at a cost of Rs.5.32 crores.

Public Health Engineering: Out of 561 inhabited villages 551 villages and four towns with a population of 5.16 lakh have been provided with piped drinking water. Concerted efforts are being made to improve the public health engineering net work in the district. Last year Rs.5.33 crores including central share under centerally sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply programme were spent in the district. During 1997-98, 14000 souls of 55 paties of the district will be provided potable water. An amount of Rs.325.25 lakhs has been earmarked under this sector for 1997-98.

Joinery Mill Pampore: The mill is equipped with Swedish, Chekosalavakian and German semi automatic precision machines and processing plants for mass production of wooden items like commercial and decorative, door and window frames, door shutters, window slashes, common and sophisticated furniture articles, tongued and grooved and decorative khatamband ceiling and panelling. A work force of 400 skilled, unskilled and technical men is working in the mill. The mill produced wooden items worth about Rs.1.4 crores in 1996-97. The mill has capacity to manufacture 50,000 doors/windows/frames and shutters annually.

L.P.G. Bottling Plant Lassi Pora: The plant is a major public sector enterprise set up by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. in 1988. The liquid petroleum gas is transported in tankers from Bombay and Vishakapatnam Oil Refineries and stored in bullet cases in the plant. It is bottled in the gas cylinders and supplied to gas agencies. The plant supplied 5.38 lakhs gas cylinders during 1996-97.

Khrew Cement Plant: The plant has a production capacity of 650 metric tons daily. It manufactured 90,000 cement bags during 1996-97. The work force of the plant consists of 650 unskilled, skilled and technical persons.

Banks: The district has a net work of 46 branches of different commercial, regional, rural and cooperative banks in all the blocks of the district. There are three extension centres of the J&K Bank in the district.

Post and Telegraphs: The postal net work in the district consists of one Head Post-Office at Pulwama and 6 Sub-post offices at Pampore, Awantipora, Tral, Shopian, Achan and Hall. The number of Telephone connections is 1159 in the 12 Electronic Telephone Exchanges. The STD facilities are available at Lathipora, Pampore, Awantipora, Pulwama and Shopian

Khadi Village Industries Board: (K.V.I.B) The board has been playing a key role in the improvement of the economic condition of rural artisans. As many as 1650 units have been set up with a financial assistance of Rs.1.80 crore so far providing employment to 4000 people. Besides, the Board provided RS.4.48 lakhs as grant-in-aid to 105 cooperative societies during 1996-97. The annual turn over of the units is Rs.38.05 crore.

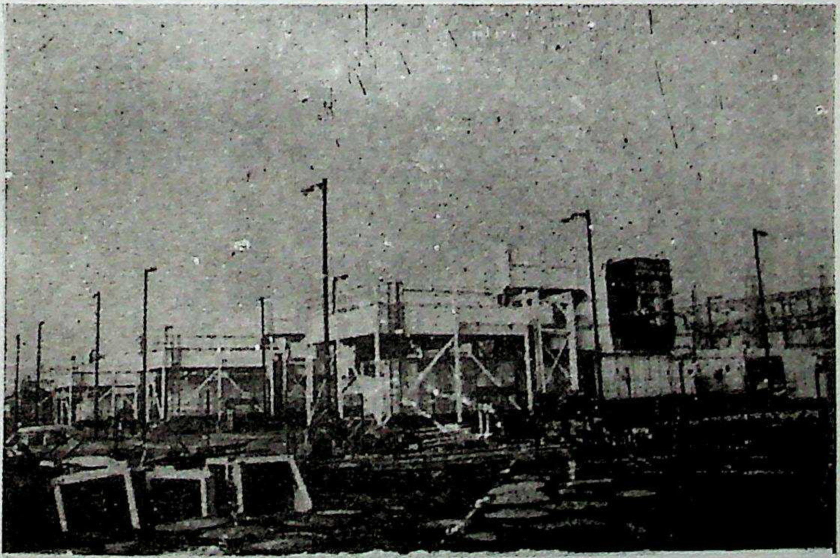
Vital Installations: The district has some installations having economic

CC-0. Jammu. Chandigarh Funding by IKS-MoE-2025-Grant

importance. These provide different facilities to the people.

Gas Turbine, Pampore: The power generation Gas Turbine at Pampore consists of four units each having capacity of 21.26 MW. This is run under the supervision of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL). The project established at a cost of Rs.115 crores, provides electricity to the Valley through the existing transmission system during lean hours perticularly in winter. The project has considerably helped in meeting the requirements of the electricity in lean season.

Government Ply Wood Board Industry Pampore: It manufactures flush doors, black boards and ply wood of various thickness and furniture. The board produced goods worth Rs.14.49 lakhs during 1996-97.



Gas Turbine, Pampur

COMPERATIVE STATEMENT OF YEAR WISE EXPENDITURE (IN LAKH)

Sector	Expdt. 92-93	Expdt. 93-94	Expdt. 94-95	Expdt. 95-96	Outlay 96-97	Expdt. 96-97	Expdt. 92-97
Agriculture & Allied Service	387.32	412.43	484.44	557.91	604.91	714.53	2556.63
Rural Dev.	78.65	85.02	127.59	240.50	268.46	264.40	796.23
Industries	56.29	55.91	59.76	63.17	68.99	80.05	315.18
Communication.	239.30	187.58	211.41	206.07	309.34	423.63	1267.99
Energy	-	43.00	100.00	264.39	248.00	248.00	655.39
Social & Gen.Services	781.84	896.38	888.52	982.78	1319.08	1348.87	4898.39
Others	-	2.19	3.20	5.11	3.23	7.43	17.93
Total:-	**1543.40**	**1682.51**	**1874.92**	**2320.00**	**2822.01**	**3086.91**	**10507.74**

WHO'S WHO

Mr.P.L.Handoo, Minister for Law & Parliamentary Affairs Chariman DDB	546015 548356

Mr.Bashir Ahmed Nengroo
Minister of State Agriculture
Vice Chairman, DDB
(MLA Pulwama)

Mr. Ali Mohd Naik
Speaker Legislative Assembly
(MLA Tral) Member

Mir Mohammd Jabbar
MLA Wachi -do-

Ch. Mohi-ud-Din Mir
MLA Rajpora -do-

Mr. Mushtaq Ahmed Kuchay
MLA Pampore -do-

Sheikh Mohmmad Rafi
MLA Shopian -do-

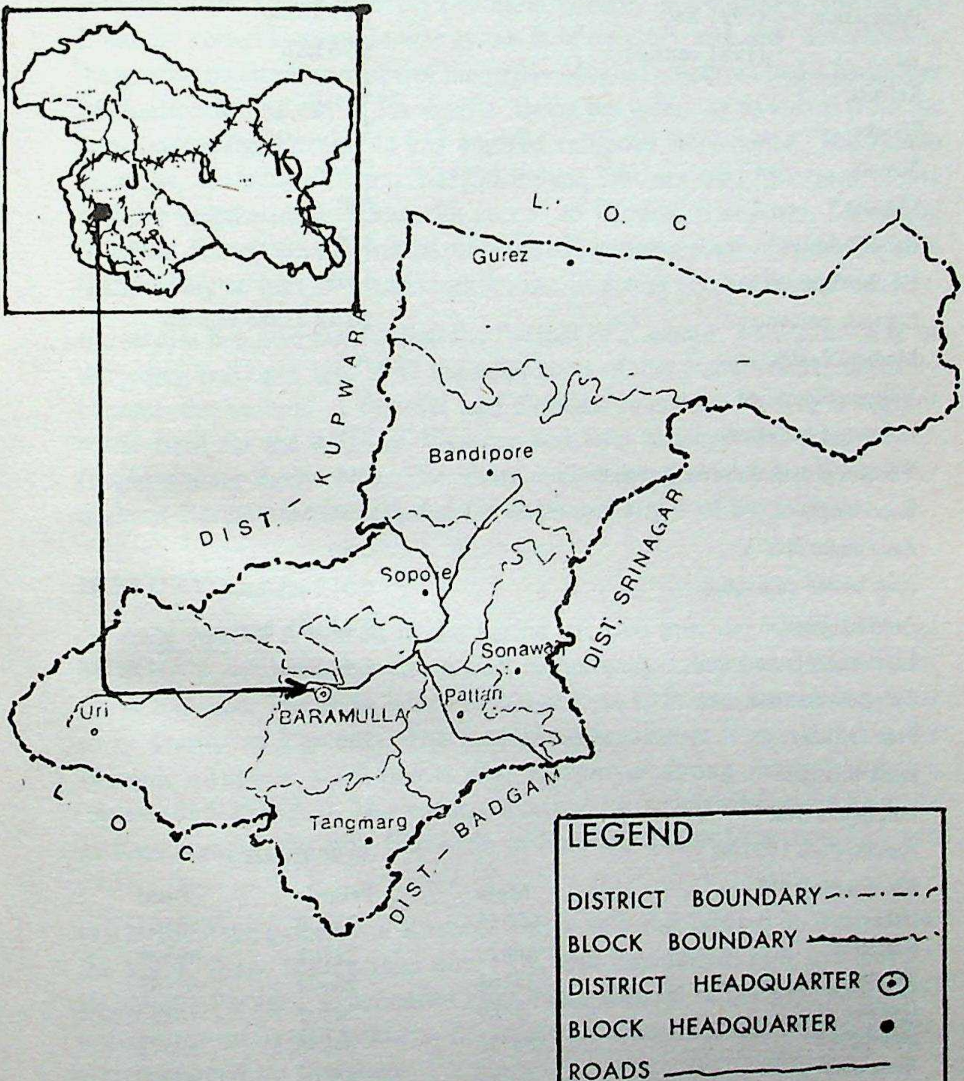
Mr.Abdul Rahman Tukroo
MLC -do-

Sheikh Mohmmad Rafi
MLA Shopian -do-

Mr.Abdul Rahman Tukroo
MLC -do-

	Telephone Nos. Code 01933	
DISTRICT HEADS	**Office**	**Residence**
Dy.Commissioner	41243	41234
SSP	41237	41238
Distt. and Sessions Judge	41246	41270
Chief Medical Officer	21275	
Distt. Sheep Husbandry Officer	41215	
Distt. Treasury Officer	41203	
Distt. Information Officer	41259	41292
Telephone Exchange Pulwama	180/197	
Post Office Pulwama	41290	
J&K Bank Pulwama	41240	
Police Control Room Pulwama	41280	
District Hospital Pulwama	41205	

BARAMULLA DISTRICT


J
&
K
L. O. C
Gurez
Bandipore
DIST. – KUPWARA
Sopore
Sonawari
DIST. SRINAGAR
Pattan
BARAMULLA
Uri
L O C
Tangmarg
DIST. – BADGAM
LEGEND
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
BLOCK BOUNDARY
DISTRICT HEADQUARTER ⊙
BLOCK HEADQUARTER ●
ROADS

BARAMULLA AT A GLANCE

Area		4,588 Sq. Kms
Forest Area		2,963 Sq. Kms
Population	(1991 Est)	8.61 Lakhs
	(1981 census)	6.70 lakh
Tehsils		8
Blocks		14
Towns		7
Villages		660
Panchayats		162
Ed. Institutions		1275
Literacy percentage		20.62 (1981 census)
Medical Institutions		368
Villages Electrified		633
Hamlets Electrified		225
Villages provided drinking water		644
Road length		1500 Kms.
Area under H Y V		0.80
Area under cultivation		0.91 Lakh hect.
Area Irrigated		0.44 lakh hect.
Live-stock population		6.44 lakhs
Co-operative societies		67
Post Offices		236
Bank branches		120
Lok Sabha Seat		1
Annual Plan 1997-98		50.26 Crores.

Electorate(1998)	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Uri	29355	23208	52563
Rafiabad	26529	22780	49309
Sopore	34108	28074	62182
Gurez	5789	4791	10580
Bandipora	28935	24638	53573
Sonawari	36408	28962	65370
Baramulla	28704	25914	54618
Gulmarg	30253	28814	59067
Pattan	32401	28792	61193
Total	**273406**	**234264**	**507670**

Baramulla town is as old as the valley of Kashmir. The history of the place starts from the time when the entire valley was a vast lake known as **SATISAR**. The city of Baramulla as it existed in ancient times, having been founded by Raja Bhimsina in 2306 BC has a hoary past. The city (present Baramulla Town) held the position of gate way for the valley and extended from Drang (present Drangbal village) to Kanispora. During the Buddhist period Baramulla was at zenith of its glory and was described as the prosperous trading centre of the valley.Mughal emperors had a particular fascination for the city of Baramulla. Being the gate way to valley from the very beginning, Baramulla has enjoyed religious importance. The Hindu Teeraths, Buddhist Vihars, SikhGurdwars, Shrines and Mosques of the Muslim culture made Baramulla sacred to Hindus, Buddhists, Sikhs and Muslims. Baramulla enjoyed the privilege of becoming abide of Hindu Muslim Sikhs living in harmony and contributing to a rich composite culture.

Baramulla has also been called the Panipat of Kashmir. As a gate- way of the valley and right upto 1947 the inhabitants of this place would frequently become the victims of internal and external invasions. It was a regular battle field for the kings of Kashmir and later amongst the princes who fought among themselves. The internal disturbances widely affected the trade of Baramulla and retarded the economic status of the people.

HISTORY

Its early history is traced to the period of two princes, **KAMAN** and MURHAN, who entered into a pact to mutually settle the issue of their father's throne. The areas below Srinagar went to Prince Kaman and came to be known as Kamaraz. The present nomenclature is attributed to the volcanic erruption at 12 places near Khadniyar during Awantiwarman's regime (855-883) A.D. This version is carried by the noted historian Kalhana in Rajatarangni, the first Chronicle of Kashmir (book V section 156 and 213)

Once called the gateway of Kashmir Valley as it was located on the route to the Valley from Muzfarabad now POK and Rawalpindi now in Pakistan, Baramulla for ages, experienced alien socio-cultural influences. Kings and queens, travellers and trekkers, saints and preachers and all sorts of people, were charmed by this route.

The history dates back to the time when the entire Valley was a vast lake known as 'SATISAR'. In fact, the history of Kashmir thus originates with the history of Baramulla. In **'RAJATARANGINI", 'VARAHMUL'** finds its mention in a legend.

The legend says that thousands of years ago, Kashmir Valley was **SATISAR.** In this 'Sar', lived a gang of cruel demons, their chief popularly known as Jaldev, a corruption of Jalodbhava. The demons used to cause a lot of destruction and harass the people, living on mountain tops. After some time, a ripe-aged saint, **KASHYAPA**, who was believed to be the great grandson of Lord Brahma, visited this place. To save the people from misery, he prayed to the Almighty. Due to his prayers and penance, Lord Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva came to his help. When they reached this place, they found that Indra, who was already in fight with these demons, had succeeded in killing them and was now in search of the Chief, Jalod Bhava, who alongwith some of his companions had taken refuge under the depth of water. According to the legend, to kill these demons, Lord Vishnu transformed himself into a gigantic Varaha, chased them for thousands of years in the depth of water and finally killed them. After this, he cut the mountain by striking his tail against it, giving way to the water. Thus the water of the lake was drained and the Kashmir Valley came into existence.

Kalhana recorded in Rajatrangini that in memory of **VARAHA AVTARA**. (Lord Vishnu,) the first teeratha of Kashmir Valley was built by Hindus near the place where the mountain was cut and the place was named **'VARAHAMULLA'** meaning in Sanskrit a boar's place. Foreigners who visited this place pronounced Verahamulla where as the Kashmiris still call this place Varamull.There are other versions also. According to one version since the river Jehlum flows down after getting a bend at this place, hence the name "Varamulla" "Var" in Kashmiri means a bend and "mull" means a place. But the popular view is that the water of "Sati-sar" lake was drained off by a volcanic erruption at twelve places in the close vicinity of Baramulla. The place was thus named as "Baramulla" meaning 12 bores.

The city of Baramulla, founded by Raja Bhimsina in 2306 B.C., has a hoary past. The city held the position of a gate-way to the Valley. There was a watch station known as "Drang" (presently Drangbal village) where there used to be strong guard. The visitors were received at this station. The famous chinese visitor Heiun-Tsang was received here by Raja Darlabdurana, the then king of Kashmir, in 631 A.D. This watch station existed upto the 19th century. Moorecraft, an english historian, visited this station in 1823 A.D.

A wooden bridge, over Jhelum, connected Baramulla to the famous city of Hashikopora (present Ushkara village). The city of Hashikopora was founded by king Haskha and was the headquarters of Buddhist monks as Haskhar had constructed a 'vihar' there. Two more 'vihars' were constructed by Queen "Dahhana" and her brother, prince "jaloka". The baroque terracotta school of Hashikopora has been described as one of the most striking piece of Indian art. The famous king "Kanishka" founded the city of Kanishakpora (presently Kanishpora village), just near the city of Baramulla. The city of Baramulla thus got extended from Drang to Kanispora. It is believed that Kanishka convened 4th Buddhist conference at Kanispora under the Chairmanship of "Nagarjuna". During the Buddhist period Baramulla was at the zenith of its glory. Albaruni' describes Baramulla as the prosperous trading centre of the Valley.

Mughal Emperors had special fascination for Baramulla. Being the gateway of the Valley it was a halting station for them during their visits to the Valley. In 1508 A.D., Emperor Akbar, who entered the Valley via Pakhil, spent a few days at Baramulla and according to "Tarikh-e-Hassan," the city during Akbar's stay, had been decorated like a bride. Jahangir also stayed at Baramulla during his visit to Kashmir in 1620 A.D.

From the very beginning, Baramulla has enjoyed religious importance. The construction of Hindu teeratha and Buddhist Vihars made this city sacred to Hindus as well as Buddhists. In the 15th century, the place became important to Muslims also, as the famous muslim saint, Sayed Janbaz Wali, who visited the Valley alongwith his companions in 1421 A.D. chose Baramulla as the centre of his mission and, after his death, he was burried there. His Shrine attracts pilgrims from all over the Valley. In 1894 the sixth Sikh Guru Shri Hargobind Ji visited the city and gurdwara "Chatti Padshahi" was constructed in his memory. Baramulla thus became an abode of Hindus, Muslims, Budhists and Sikhs living in harmony and contributing to a rich composite culture.

According to Sir Walter Lawrance, before Independence Baramulla was an important trade centre.

DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

The district has, of late, witnessed unprecedented efforts on development front. With improvement in overall security situation, supervision and monitoring of the development works have considerably stepped up resulting in acceleration in tempo of development. The Governor, Mr. K.V. Krishan Rao himself reviewed the progress of implementation of various development schemes at the meeting of the District Development Board at Baramulla in

August 1995. During 1994-95 about Rs.28 crores were spent on various schemes and works under district plan. The plan outlay for 1997-98 has been fixed at Rs. 50.26 crores.

District Plan 1997-98

(Rs.in lakhs)

S.No.	Sector	Outlay	Expenditure (Provisional)
1.	Agriculture & Allied Services	1071.35	985.21
2.	Rural Dev.	670.82	474.21
3.	Industries	130.17	144.85
4.	Communication	632.49	632.49
5.	Energy	243.00	248.82
6.	Social & Gen. Services	2272.49	2040.30
7.	Others	6.45	6.45
	Total:	**5026.77**	**4532.83**

The District Administration has kept itself alive to the problem of people and has spared no effort to fulfil the aspiration of the people and working up to their expectation, which has helped in percolating down the benefits of various welfare and developmental programmes to the common masses. In order to get the administrative machinery out of its state of inertia and making it more responsive to the local needs and genuine demands of the people, we have taken a number of steps in this connection which includes:-

i) Concurrent evaluation of developmental process and we are proud in disclosing that reports have been very encouraging.

ii) Constitutions of physical verification teams from time to time has become a regular feature of developmental programme which has resulted in greater transparancy of working of district administration.

iii) Monthly review of developmental activities on every second Saturday of the month.

iv) Active participation of genuine representatives of public in the finalization of developmental programmes which is a step forward in the direction of Block Level Planning a concept for strengthening the decentralizaion of Planning system.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENT OF 1996-97: The district has followed the concept of decentralization of planning in letter and spirit and plans are being formulated at district level in consultation with Hon'ble Members of Parliament, Hon'ble Members of Legislature and other Members of Board reoresenting Backward communities. The experiment is proving very useful and benefits are reaching to the targetted people.

The last year allocation originally stood approved at Rs.4042.90 lakhs which was revised to an amount of Rs.3905.92 lakhs. Against this an expenditure of RS.3884.36 has been made which works out to 99.90% of the total allocation of the year 1996-97 higher than the expendiure level of 99.70% of the year 1995-96. It is worth while to put on record that we have been not only interested in recording highest level of expenditure but in ensuring execution of works and creation of assets in real sense. Brief details of the various achievements made under different sectors are enunciated below:-

AGRICULTURE:

During the year 1996-97 an amount of Rs.52.67 lakhs was earmarked for the sector under Crop Husbandry and Rs.146.45 lakhs under T&V sector against which an amount of Rs.52.67 lakhs and Rs.146.45 lakhs has been spent respectively. The major highlights of the achievements in the sector have been:-

i) Coverage of 68801 hectares of land area covered under HYV programme during Kharief season and coverage of 38713 hectares covered under HYV programme during Rabi season.

ii) Distribution of 1169 quintals of HYV seeds during Kharief season and 2628 quintals of HYV seeds during Rabi season.

iii) Distribution of 106 lift Irrigation Pumps and 158 Foot spray pumps on 50% subsidy under BADP and TSP Programme.

iv) 66 quintals of Saffron corms distributed on 50% subsidy to the farmers in tribal belts.

v) 213 Bee colonies and 370 Bee Hives distributed on 50% subsidy in Tribal Belts and other areas of district.

vi) 40 low cost poly houses/Green Houses (10"x50") are being established in border blocks of the district.

vii) 3000 trays have been laid for cultivation of Mushroom both in spring and Autumn seasons and 65 quintals of Mushroom production have been registered in private sector in the district.

viii) 135 Hectares of land covered under land development programme i.e. land levelling and bench terracing. 587 Rmts of R.walls and 40 Nos of check dams constructed and 2853 Rmts of gullies treated under the programme.

ix) 8 Trials of Maize pool 14-27 (G) have been laid in Gurez Sub-division. This is done to replace old and local varieties of maize.

x) 35 Hectares of land covered under seed multiplication programme of paddy K-448.

xi) 2-Front Line Scientific demonstration of wheat laid at Delina and Singhpora during Rabi 1996.

xii) 35 Nos of Zeera plots of 10 marlas size established in Gurez where in fencing material and fertilizers provided.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY:

An amount of RS.37.43 lakhs was earmarked in the sector during 1996-97 against which Rs.37.22 lakhs have been spent. The main achievements are as under:

i) About 9000 cross bred cows have been produced through Artificial Insemination programme under Cattle Development programme.

ii) 22 lakh litres of liquid nitrogen has been produced from liquid nitrogen plant during the year.

iii) About 7.25 lakh livestock has been vaccinated amongst scheduled diseases during the year 1996.

iv) 0.22 lakh cows have been covered by Artificial Insemination during the year.

FISHERIES

i) Construction of Fishermen Housing Coloney at Leharwalpora Bandipora has been started and 23 beneficiaries provided financial assistance at the rate of Rs.17,500/- per fisherman through Rural Development Department.

ii) 1800 Fishermen of disrict have been covered under incidental insurance scheme. Rs.75,000 were distributed among the nominees of three Fishermen at the rate of Rs.25000/- each by Hon'ble Forest Minister in shape of cheque as relief.

iii) All the feasible water bodies of the district were stocked with improved carp fish seed and snow fed streams with rainbow trout seed.

HORTICULTURE

An amount of Rs.52.18 lakhs was allocated to the sector during the year 1996-97 of which an expenditure of Rs.51.59 lakhs have been made. The notable achievements of this sector are as under:-

i) 20 hectares of area has been covered under Dry Fruit Plantation and similarly 180 hectares of land also were brought under Fresh Fruit plantation.

ii) An area of 95000 hectares of orchard area was treated against various pests and diseases.

iii) 12000 hectares of land was provided with different types of fertilizers.

iv) 30 Nos of Power motors issued at the subsidized rate of Rs.3000/- per motor.

v) 3 Nos of Mini Tractors were distributed among marginal farmers with subsidy of Rs.40000/- per tractor.

vi) 10,000 Nos. of High Density plants distributed to the growers for strengthening the horticulture base in the district.

vii) 1.50 M.tonnes of olive fruit harvested at Government orchards at Salamabad Uri which indeed is an achievement.

viii) 200 hectares of land covered under apple and pear plantation by planting 50000 such plants.

ix) 1100 Nos of poly green houses stand established in the district.

EDUCATION:

i) 15 No of primary schools were opened during the year 1996.

ii) 9 schools were provided with addition of 6th class.

iii) 6 schools were provided with addition of 7th class and similarly 6 schools were brought to middle level.

iv) Two Middle schools were upgraded to the level of High schools.

v) One school has been upgraded from the level of High school to Higher secondary school level.

vi) 5292 students were provided with merit cum-poverty scholarships.

vii) 59871 students were provided with free uniforms.

viii) 46100 students were benefitted under mid day meals programme.

ix) On the construction side, 4 Midedle schools, three Primary schools were constructed. Besides repair works were executed on 25 Primary schools, 35 Middle schools, 7 High schools. Also toilet facility stands provided to 4 Primary schools, 25 Middle schools and 21 High schools.

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING:

i) 7 number of water supply schemes have been closed financially at the cost of Rs.218.14 lakhs.

ii) Water supply to Khoja Bagh and Sheerwani Colony has been stablized which has benefitted 6000 souls of the area.

iii) Water supply schemes Ushkara and Drangbal have been taken up for execution during the year 1996-97 and are nearing completion and shall be commissioned within some days. This will benefit about 800 souls in Ushkara and Drangbal villages.

iv) Water supply scheme Hajibal-Warpora has been taken up for execution during the year 1996-97 at the cost of RS.35.00 lakhs and this would make water supply possible to 12 villages with a population of 8000 souls.

v) Water supply scheme Rohama was restored after six years, besides improvements to distribution system of village Tragpora and Chijhama is in progress.

vi) Water supply in Uri area has been stablized to the extent possible.

vii) The restoration works on water supply scheme Shrakwara which is providing water supply to 10 villages and Sopore town has been taken up in hand and the connected items have been procurred and installation plant will become operational within some time and whole area dependent on this scheme will get filterred water.

viii) Water supply scheme Sonawari Zone IInd, the main source of supply of drinking water to Sonawari area, which was running inefficiently as the equipment installed therein was twenty years old, was strengthened by installation of new pumping equipments and carrying on allied works. The immediate result was full coverage for 11 villages comprising on 21,932 souls.

ix) To provide adequate water supply to six villages being fed by water supply scheme Dever Vakhmanpora, tube wells at Dawar are being harnessed at a cost of Rs.60.00 lakhs for which an additional amount of Rs. 30.00 lakhs was provided.

x) Water supply scheme Mangraypora has been commissioned recently which shall benefit about 5000 souls under its ambit including villages connected with scheme.

SOCIAL WELFARE:

i) A three days exhibition camp was organised at Baramulla w.e.f. 03.12.1996 to 05.12.1996 wherein 138 Hearing aids were provided to deaf persons, 31 tricycles to crippled persons. 64 crutches to 64 handicapped persons besides 78 calipers to polio victims.

ii) A huge amount of Rs.130.544 lakhs was spent during 1996-97 under ISSS to provide source of sustainence to large number of old aged, widows, polio victims etc. Besides, 5254 fresh applications pending were covered for assistance during the year raising the total number of beneficiaries from 7100 to 12045.

Pradhuman Sh. Joseph Dhar
M.A. (Eng., Pol. Sc., His, Edu.)
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iii) An amount of Rs.7.233 lakhs was sanctioned and is being distributed among 2931 students belonging to OBC.

iv) 1740 aged persons above 65 years of age having no source of income were covered for assistance under NOAP. Similarly NMB was provided to 584 pregnant ladies belonging to poor house-holds.

HANDICRAFTS:

i) About 22000 trainees were trained in various crafts during the year through 64 training centres being run in the district.

ii) Finished goods worth Rs.2.70 lakhs were made by the trainees trained in training centres.

iii) 655 number of Handicraft units were registered in the district and similarly 167 artisans were registered during the year 1996-97.

IRRIGATION

i) Out of 25 units,18 Nos OGI protection sheds to save machinery and equipment worth lakhs of rupees have been constructed during the year 1996-97 at Lankreshipora, Zedow, Zelwan, Ranigund, Gurseer, Magraypora, Viginbal Ghat, Nathpora, Malgankipora, Mundyari etc. by Mechanical Irrigation Divisions. The remaining seven units shall be completed during 1998 by the Mechanical Irrigation Division Sumbal.

ii) Material for replacement of M.S Tubular poles alongwith conductor etc. for Achoora Gurez has been received. The power supply through this irrigation-cum-Hydro Electric Scheme shall be resumed immediately after Bandipora Gurez road is opened.

iii) The target of 30000 Acres Stablization have been achieved whereas 400 acres were proposed to be brought under new irrigation through completed schemes.

iv) Eight number ongoing schem of Mechanical Lift Irrigation natures have been closed.

D. R. D. A.

i) 945 cases were sponsored and established under IRDP scheme in different trades, of which 500 units fall in Dairy Development.

ii) Under Trysem Programme 630 trainees were trained in different skills such as typing, computer operations, driving, transformer winding etc. This year greater emphasis was laid on providing training to youth of far flung areas.

iii) Under **DWCRA** programme 44 groups have been formed and 43 women beneficiaries benefitted under the programme.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

i) stress has been laid for completion of maximum number of works both **EAS** and JRY, 356 works stand completed under J.R.Y. and 1474 under **E.A.S.**

ii) 136 wells constructed and 1262 houses completed under IAY.

iii) 6 works were completed under Tribal Sub Plan and similarly 18 works

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were got completed with the funds provided under Untied grants.

ROADS AND BUILDINGS:

i) 25.15 Kms. of road black topped,345 Kms of road metalled, besides 7.75 kms of road shinglled.

ii) 945.00 metres of drains constructed, 16000 metres of bridge/culverts constructed.

Contruction of Tube Wells.

iii) 163 lakhs additionalitiesprovided by the Planning and Development Department was utilized for soiling of 16.75 kms of road length besides, 15,00 kms were metalled and 10 number of bridges/culverts constructed.

iv) Construction of bailey bridge at Shahdara Kamalkote with an estimated cost of Rs.77.00 lakhs is in progress and is expected to be completed in near future.

v) An amount of Rs.66.16 lakhs was provided out of Untied grants which was utilised for metalling of 18.64 Kms of raod length and solling of roads.

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g funding by IKS MoE 2025 Grant

PLACES OF INTEREST:

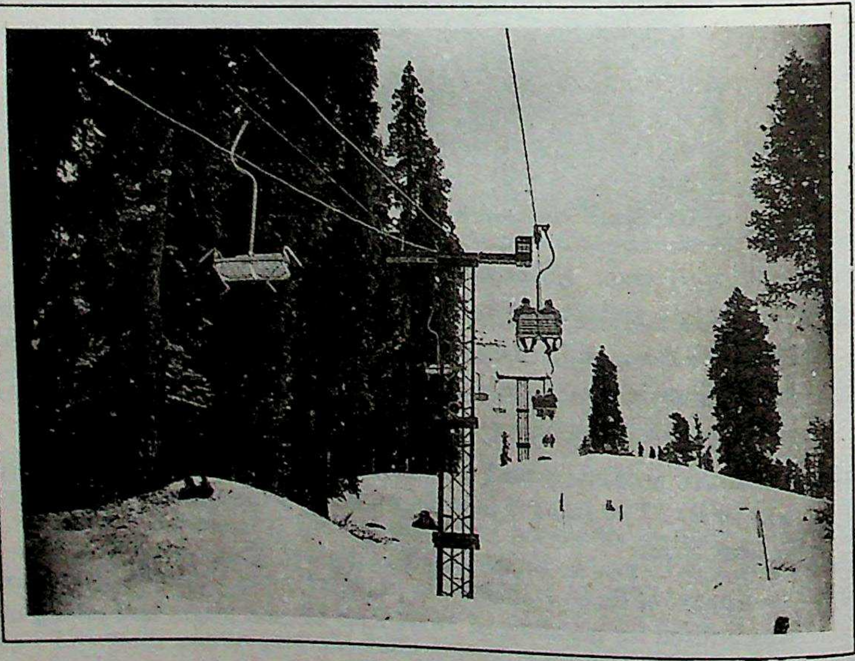
GULMARG

Fifty seven kms. from Srinagar, Gulmarg, a meadow of flowers, is a world famous tourist resort situated at an altitude of 2730 metres. Surrounded by dense forests on all sides, Gulmarg is known for natural beauty and is rated as one of the matchless hill resorts of the world.

Gulmarg is, besides its natural charm, also famous golf hikes. Many golfers of the country and abroad visit Gulmarg to play golf. Tourists in large number come here during summer and many come in winter.

Gulmarg is country's premier winter sports resort. It is an ideal place for skiing and skating. There is also a 500 metre Chair Lift which gives skirun of about 700 mtrs. Besides, beginners T-bar of 200 mts. is also available. In addition, there are three more ski-lifts which are operated on three different slopes. A Cable Car Project one of the highest in the world is also under construction and is likely to be completed soon.

The road from Srinagar to Gulmarg is beautifully lined with towering popular trees making a majestic drive.



GULMARG

There are a number of hotels with modern facilities. The Tourism Department too has a number of residential huts. Telephones, with STD and ISD facilities are also available. But due to disturbed conditions in the Valley, not many tourists from outside the State visit these days. But recently locals have started thronging Gulmarg in thousands especially on week-ends

Thirteen kms. from Gulmarg is Alpather lake which remains frozen even in June. Four kms. from Gulmarg is another spot Khilanmarg. It offers unrivalled spectacle of the peaks. Ziarat of Baba Rishi, a noted muslim saint who lived there during the Mughal rule, is also located in the area. Both Muslims and Hidnus make offerings. Gulmarg - Khilanmarg - Apharwat-Alpather is one of the important trekking routes.

MANASBAL LAKE

This small lake is situated at a distance of 32 kms from Srinagar on the Srinagar-Bandipore road. Its length is about 5 kms. and breadth 1.20 kms. The importance of this lake lies chiefly in its deep and clean waters and lotus flowers. Lotus roots (Nadroo) and water nuts grow in plenty there. Tourists enjoy Shikara ride in this lake. It is a bird watchers paradise. On the back of Mansbal, is the historical Jaregbal park which is popular location for picnickers.

WATLAB

Watlab, over-looking the famous Wular lake and situated on the Sopore-Bandipore road is 56 kms from Srinagar and 8 kms from apple town Sopore. The tomb of famous saint Baba Shakur-ud-Din Sahib is on a hill-top adjoining it.

CHITTER NAR

A small place surrounded by dense trees on all sides, Chitternar is 3 kms away from Bandipore. A Forest Training School has been setup here.

ATHWATOO

Athwatoo 68 kms from Srinagar, is situated on the left bank of Madhumati nallah in Bandipore. The Tourism department has constructed rest houses here for the convenience of the tourists.

RIVER JEHLUM

The river Jehlum is commonly known as "VETH" and runs a length of 203 Kms. in the Valley. It's main source is Verinag spring in Anantnag district. After passing through Srinagar city it flows into the Wular lake and then passes through Baramulla and Uri to Pakistan occupied Kashmir. Like Srinagar city, Baramulla town is also situated on both sides of this river. Other important places situated on its bank in Baramulla district are Sumbal, Hajan and Sopore. From Khanabal upto Khadinyar, a village 5 Kms. from Baramulla, the river is navigable and people enjoy Shikara riding besides carrying goods in boats from one place to other. Magnificent mosques, wonderful temples and glorious buildings and Government offices are situated on its banks.

Its main tributories are Sindh, Pahroo, Lidder, Vashu, Doodganga, Nallah Arin and Madhumati rivers. From Baramulla to Kohala, it flows very fast, and near Domel, Kishan Ganga river also joins it. Most of the electricity produced in the Valley is generated by Hydel Projects set up on this river. The Lower Jehlum Hydro-Electric Project generates 105 MWS of electricity and the Uri Hydel Project, presently under construction, will generate 480 MWS on completion.

KISHAN GANGA

The main source of the Kishan Ganga river is in Drass in Kargil district. After passing through the mountains and tracks of Tilail, Gurez, Keran and Arnah it joins Jehlum river at Domel. The river is famous for its ice cold water and trout fish. It is also called "NEELUM" river.

WULLUR LAKE

This is the largest fresh water lake in Asia. Its length is 24 Kms. and breadth is 10 Kms. This lake is situated between Bandipore and Sopore. Bandipore is situated on its eastern and northern bank. The Madhumati and Erin Nallahs flow into the lake from the eastern side. From south, Jehlum seeks a passage through it to Baramulla. The lake produces waternuts and other natural products. Fish is found in abundance. From Srinagar city the lake can be approached by road and through river Jehlum. In the centre of the lake there is a small island called "Zaina Lank" which was constructed by famous King "Zainul-Abi-Din" Budshah (1417-1480). The lake is considered to be the remanant of Satisar lake cf pre-historic times.

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FAMOUS TOWNS

BANDIPORE

This town of northern Kashmir is situated at a distance of 57 Kms. from Srinagar on the eastern bank of Wular lake and is called the "Port of Wular". The road to Gurez and Gilgit leads from this town. It is an important trade centre. A beautiful park on the pattern of Nishat Bagh of Srinagar has been laid here. The population of the town according to the 1981 census, is 14218.

GUREZ

Gurez is a beautiful valley surrounded from all sides by lofty mountains, which is located 86 kms from Bandipore on Bandipore-Gilgit road. The Kishan Ganga river flows through it. The average altitute of this valley is 7800 ft.

PATTAN

Pattan is an old town which had remained the capital of Kashmir, during the regime of Shankeraverman (889-902 A.D.). It is 27 kms from Srinagar on Srinagar-Uri National Highway at an altitutde of 5200 ft. above the sea level. The population of Pattan is 5017 according to the 1981 census.

BARAMULLA

Baramulla town is situated at a distance of 55 kms from Srinagar, and is the headquarter of the district. The river Jehlum flows through this town. It is an important trade centre on Srinagar-Uri road. The population of this town according to the 1981 census is 33945.

SOPORE

Sopore town is also known as apple town. It is situated at a distance of 48 kms from Srinagar on the banks of river Jehlum near Wular lake. Sopore is the biggest trade centre in north Kashmir. It has 33584 population as per 1981 census.

URI

It is a border town, 101 kms from Srinagar and 46 kms from Baramulla. situated on the banks of the river Jehlum. It was an important station on erstwhile Srinagar-Rawalpindi road before Pakistan illegally occupied some areas of the State in 1947-48. Its climate resembles with that of Poonch. Its population according to 1981 census is 3072.

BIG INSTALLATIONS

Uri Hydro Electric Project

The 480 M.W. Uri Hydro Electric Project is situated on the River Jehlum in the Uri tehsil of Baramulla district. It is located along Srinagar Uri National Highway and is spread over a length of 20 Kms. The Project is run by the river scheme located on the down stream of lower Jehlum Power Station which utilizes a head of 254.8 W. The Project envisages a barrage cut and cover desiliting basin open 10.65 km. long headrace tunnel, pressure shaft, one underground power house and 2.02 km long tail race tunnel with out fall at the Bandi Village near the Uri town. The project shall have an installed capicity of 480 M.W.s (4x120 MWS) under the stage I with a provision to install an identical capicity under the stage II when the additional regulated water becomes availabe with the construction of Wular barrage and Kishanganga Hydro Electric Project. The project was donated to the people of Kashmir by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Deva Goda on 13.2.1997.

Lower Jehlum Hydro Project

The 120 MW long Lower Jehlum Hydro Electric Project is situated at Chahala Baramulla 20 kms away from the town. It has been constructed on the river Jehlum and is run of the River scheme.

Kishanganga Hydro Electric Project

Kishanganga Hydro Electric Project is located in Gurez, Bandipora area of district Baramulla of Jammu and Kashmir State. The project envisages contribution of a 77 M High Dam across river Kishanganga and diversion of water through a tunnel 21-67 km long and under ground Power House in the vicinity of Kralpora Bandipora. It is proposed to utilize a head of 711 mts to generate the 330 MW of power in 3 units of 110 MW each.

FAMOUS SHRINES IN BARAMULLA DISTRICT

1. Syed Janbaz Wali situated at Khanpora, Baramulla.
2. Syed Malik Bukhari Sahib situated at Nadihal, Baramulla

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3. Devi Temple situated at Khanpora, Baramulla
4. Chati Padshahi Gurdawara situated at Rajghat, Baramulla
5. Ziarat Hazrat Sultanul Aarfeen situated at Tujar, Sopore
6. Baba Shukoor ud Din Sahib situated at Watlab
7. Baba Payam ud Din Reshi Sahib situated at Tangmarg
8. Ziarat Baba Usman Gani situated at Jahama, Baramulla
9. Ziarat Sofi Satar Sahib situated at Chakla, Rafiabad
10. Dastgeer Sahib situated at Qazi Hamam, Baramulla
11. Ancient Pandov Temples situated at Boniyar, Uri
12. Aasar Shareef situated at Khawja Sahib, Baramulla
13. Ziarat Syed Hazrat Sultan situated at Kansipora, Baramulla
14. Karim Shah Sahib situated at Qadeem Idghah,Baramulla
15. Gosami Temple situated at Gosami Teing, Baramulla
16. Syed Kirmani situated at Baramulla
17. St.Josef Church situated at Baramulla
18. Ziarat Hazrat Sultanul Aarfeen situated at Aham Shareef, Bandipora
19. Ziarat Hazrat Sultanul Aarfeen situated at Rampora, Bandipora
20. Ziarat Hazrat Dastgeer Sahib, Plan Bandipora
21. Choota Amarnath, situated at Arin, Bandipora
22. Ziarat Hazrat Mir Syed Ali Hamdani, Khankah Mohalla, Sopore
23. Ziarat Hazrat Shah Hamdan Sahib situated at Sopore
24. Ziarat Hazrat Syed Sahhib situated at Kreeri
25. Khawja Hilal Naqashband Sahib situated at Nsasbal, Sonawari
26. Asthapan Nund Ki-Shur situated at Sumbal, Sonawari
27. Syed Mohammad Danyal, Talarzoo Sonawari
28. Syed Garib Sahib situated at Gund Nowgam, Sonawari
29. Syed Sahib situated at Naidkhai, Sonawari
30. Imam Badah Mohalla Sona Buran, Inderkote, Sonawari
31. Baba Jangi situated at Shilwat, Sonawari
32. Khawja Rahim Sahib situated at Chewa, Sonawari
33. Hazrat Syed Ahmed ud Din sahib situated at Bulgam, Baramulla

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SECTORWISE APPROVED OUT-LAY 1997-98

(Rs. in lakhs)

Approved Outlay 1997-98

S.No.	District/Sector	Rev.	Cap.	Total
I.	Agriculture & Allied Service	646.93	424.42	1071.35
II.	Rural Development	171.34	499.48	670.82
III.	Industries	108.21	21.96	130.17
IV.	Communication	95.49	537.00	632.40
V.	Energy	0.00	243.00	243.00
VI.	Social & General Services	1218.300	1054.19	2272.490
VII.	Others	6.450	0.00	6.450
	Grand Total	**2246.720**	**2780.050**	**5026.770**

PHYSICAL ACHIEVEMENTS DURING LAST THREE YEARS

SECTROR ACHIEVEMENTS	UNIT	(1994-95)	(1995-96)	(1996-97)
1. Foodgrains production	000 Tonnes	225.94	247.00	255.00
2. Area under HYV	Lakh Hects.	10640.00	116150.00	116.95
3. Seed Distribution	Qtls.	3500.00	6900.00	70000.00
4. Fetilizers offtake	M.Tonnes	4300.00	12000.00	13000.00
5. Area under Orchards	Hects	28300.00	29300.00	30000.00
ANIMAL HUSBANDRY				
1. Artifical insemination	Nos	17000	21000	23500
2. Births	-do-	5000	7000	6900
3. Cattle Population	Lakhs	2.57	NA	3000

SHEEP HUSBANDARY

1. Sheep Population	Lakh No.	2.93	3.05	3.07
2. Cross Bred	-do-	1.04	1.06	4.00
3. Wool Production	Lakh Kgs.	3.52	3.66	3.67
4. Mutton Production	-do-	12.09	12.45	12.00
5. Fish Production	000 tonnes	4.60	5.00	5.00

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

1. I R D P	families	174	1250	1340
2. Indra Awas Yojna	No of houses	305	463	488
3. Wells Dug	Nos	257	109	178
4. J R Y				
a. Link Roads	Kms	140	135	140
b. Minor Irrigation	Nos	78	25	66
c. Mandays	Lakh	9.49	NA	12.50
5. E.A.S				
a. Communication	Kms	24	31	42
b. Minor Irrigation	Nos	23	26	47
c. Soil Conservation	-do-	30	26	33

RURAL SANITATION

1. Household latrines	Nos	533	610	840
2. P/S latrines	-do-	-	7	8

HANDLOOM

1. Production	Lakh Mts.	2.95	2.950	NA
2. Value	Rs.in lakhs	1497.001	473.00	NA

INDUSTRIES

1. Registeration	Units	279	260	2791
2. Employment Generation	Nos	967	1200	1310

SERICULTURE

1. Cocoon production	Lakh Kgs	0.34	0.61	0.41
2. Area covered	Hects	9	35	0.28

ROAD DEVELOPMENT

1. Roads black topped	Kms	10.35	18.45	42.50
2. Metalled and Shingled	-do-	23.45	31.00	41.50
3. Fair Weather	-do-	---	3.50	4.50
4. Upgradation	-do-	82.00	45.00	48.00
5. Bridges & Culverts	Mts.	26.00	35.00	49.00

POWER

Villages electrified	Per cent	97	NA	NA

EDUCATION

1. Primary School opened	Nos	10	15	11
2. Addl. classes added	Schools	18	21	11
3. Buildings constructed	-do-	33	52	189
4. Development of Play fields	-do-	10	10	16
5. Youth Camps	-do-	25	25	30

HEALTH

1. P.H.C	Nos	2	2	1

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING

1. Villages covered	Nos	1	1	23
2. Population benefitted	souls	3400	2000	20000
3. Pop. covered	Lakhs	6.68	NA	6.70

SOCIAL WELFARE

1. Prematric scholarship	studets	2074	1750	2400
2. Housing subsidy to				

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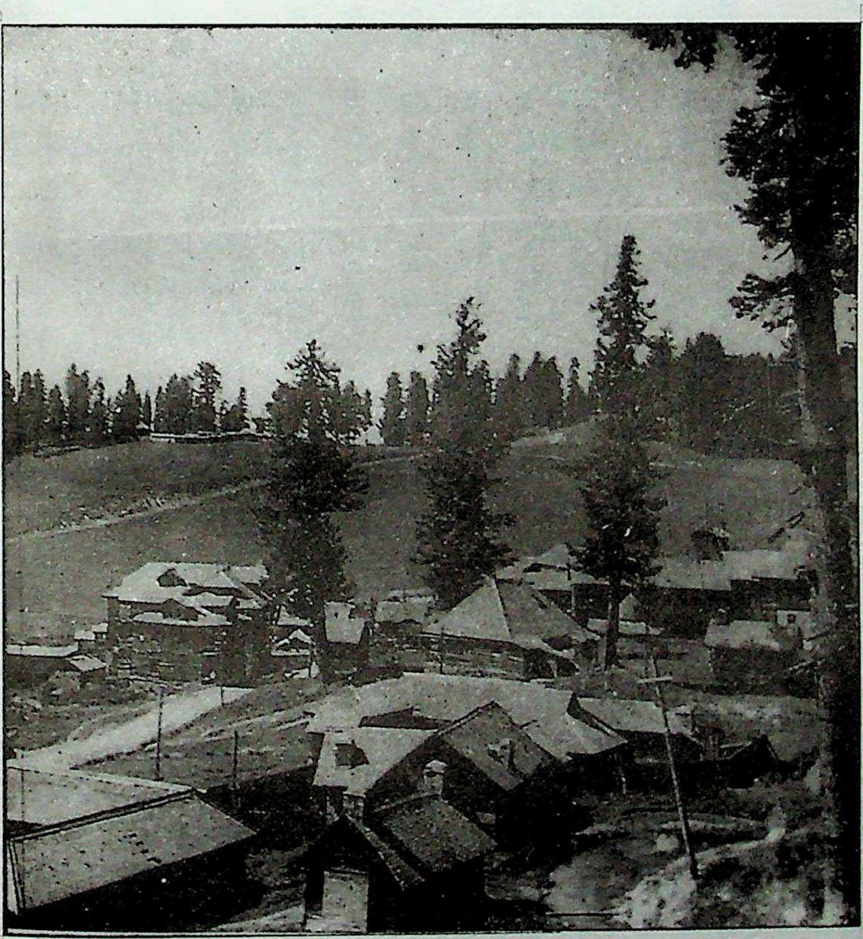
OBC's	families	47	50	663.
3. Prosthetic aid	persons	9	5	87
4. Grant of sewing machines	Nos	25	28	32

SELF EMPLOYMENT

1. Self Employment scheme	Units	-	500	590
2. P.M. R.Y	-do-	59	250	280



GULMARG

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COMPERATIVE STATEMENT OF YEAR WISE EXPENDITURE (IN LAKH)

Sector	Expdt. 92-93	Expdt. 93-94	Expdt. 94-95	Expdt. 95-96	Outlay 96-97	Expdt. 96-97	Expdt. 92-97
Agriculture & Allied Service	406.08	552.56	713.95	807.76	819.82	910.41	3390.76
Rural Dev.	108.48	138.23	167.59	343.24	465.49	360.93	1118.47
Industries	61.52	69.76	83.97	100.48	102.56	117.60	433.33
Communication.	196.20	281.12	341.89	369.77	442.31	685.56	1874.54
Energy	-	61.57	130.00	137.00	150.00	154.50	438.07
Social & Gen.Services	954.62	117.26	1361.82	1653.95	2059.24	2378.86	7466.51
Others	-	0.85	2.00	2.96	3.40	3.60	9.41
Total:-	**1726.90**	**2221.35**	**2801.22**	**3415.16**	**4042.82**	**4611.46**	**14776.09**

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WHO'S WHO

	Telephone Nos. STD Code 01952	
	Office	**Residence**
Dy.Commissioner	34210	34257
Distt.& Sessions Judge	34261	34264
D.I.G. Police	34685	34394
S.E. (R&B)	34260	34234
S.E. Electrical	-	-
S.P.	34217	34213
Addl.Dy.Commissioner	34357	34357
Distt. Information Officer	34268	34468
C.M.O.	34202	-
Chief Planing Officer	34841	
Asstt.Commissioner Dev.	34603	34246
Chief Agri. Officer		
Chief Edu. Officer		
Chief Hort. Officer	34292	
Asstt.Commr.Revenue	34343	
Dy. Registrar Co-operative	34514	
D.F.O, J.V.Division	34242	34311
D.F.O. Bandipora Divn.		
D.F.O.Social Forstry		
Distt. Employment Officer	34328	
Gen.Manager Cental Co-operative Bank	34328	
Asstt.Director Food & Supplies		
Principal Degree College	34214	
Principal Women College		

CC- Agamnigam Digital

Mr.Mohammed Shafi Finance Minister	479115/279
Mr. Ab.Ahad Vakil (MLA Sopore)	479132/385
Molvi Iftikar Hussain Ansari Housing Minister (MLA Pattan)	479135/374
Mr. Gh. Rasool Naz MLA, Bandipora	25266
Mr.Faqir Mohammad MLA Gurez	
Mr.Mohammad Dilawar Mir. MLA Rafiabad	
Mr. M.M.Lone MLA Sangrama	
Mr. Mohd. Abdullah Mujahid MLA Baramulla	
Mr. M. Y. Parray MLA Sonawari	
Mr. Javeed Hussain Shah MLC	
Mr. Mohd. Aslam MLC	
Sheikh Mohammad Maqbool Former Minister	
Mr.A.R.Rather, Minister for Agriculture & Rural Dev. Chairman, D.D.B.	546159 544854

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Mr. Dilawar Lone
Former Legislator

Mr. Habibullah Bhat
Former Legislator

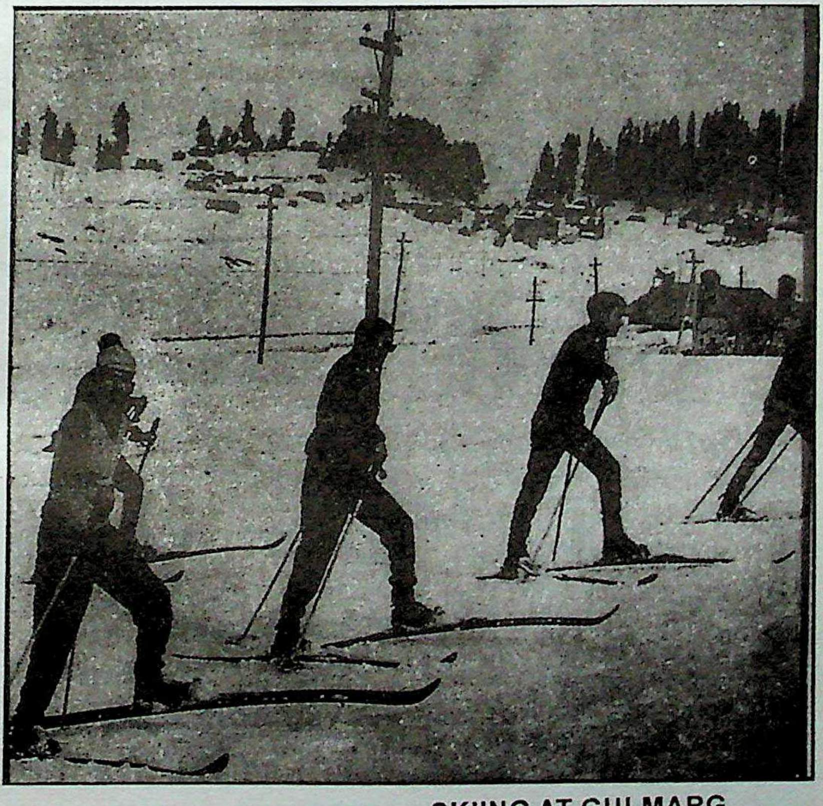
Syed Ali Shah Geelani
Former Legislator

Mr. Mohd. Yousuf Dar
Former Legislator

Mr. Ghulam Mohi-ud-Din Kutche
Former Legislator

Mr. Gh. Mohd. Khan
Former Legislator

Mr. Ab. Aziz Parray
Former Legislator



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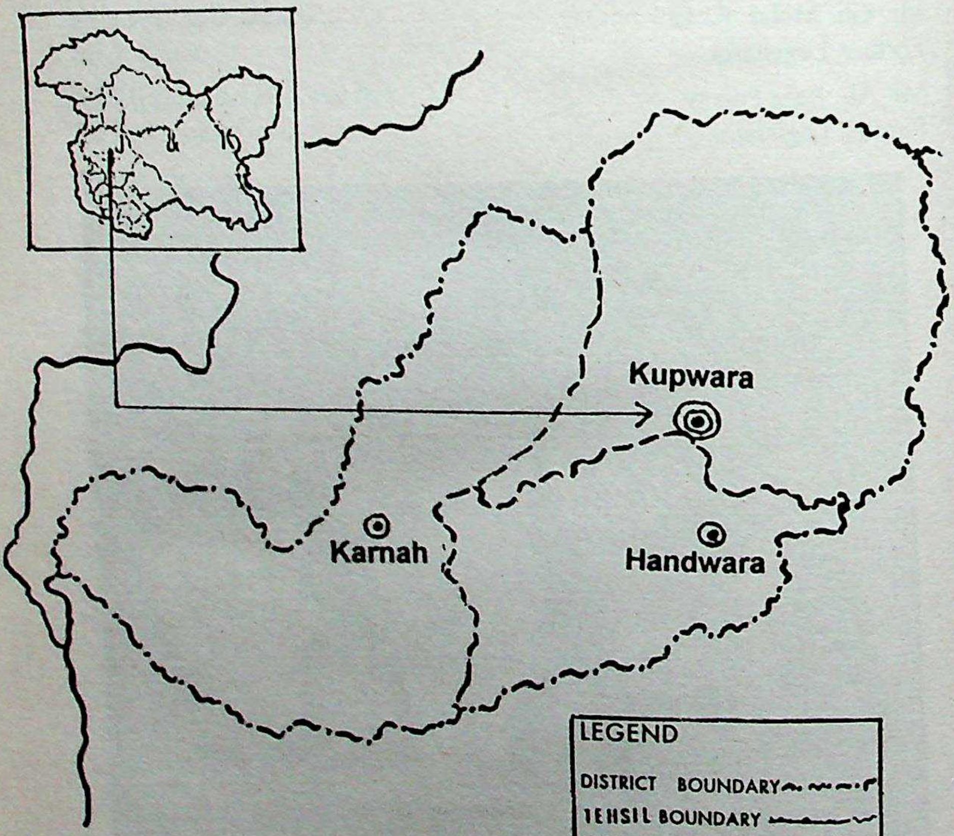
Kupwara District


Kupwara
Karnah
Handwara
LEGEND
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
TEHSIL BOUNDARY
DISTRICT HEADQUARTER
TEHSIL HEADQUARTER

KUPWARA AT A GLANCE

Geographical area	2379 Sq. Kms.
Gross Cropped area	45400 Hects.
Net area irrigated	23100 Hects.
Forest area	1500 Sq. Kms.
Tehsils	3
CD blocks	8
N.A.C.	2
Panchayats	224
Inhabited villages	369
Population a. 1981-census	3.29 (lakhs)
b. 1991-est	4.44 (lakhs)
Health Institutions	227
Education Institutions	790
LITERACY PERCENTAGE	
Male	27.67%
Female	4.88%
Total	18.82%
SSI units	702
Villages electrified	348
Village with drinking water	359
Villages linked with roads	256
Total road length in district	805
ICDS Centres	448 Nos.
Bank branches	59 Nos.
Post Offices	213
Telegraph Offices	02 Nos.
Public Call Offices	14 Nos.
Police Stations	07 Nos.
Lok Sabha Constituency	Baramulla
Assembly Segments	05
Pooling Booths	399
Annual Plan 1997-98	Rs. 32.45 crores

Electorate (1998)	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Kernah	15283	11294	26577
Kupwara	42374	23000	65374
Lolab	37436	24704	62140
Handwara	31878	21444	53322
Langet	24452	17720	42172
Total	**151423**	**98162**	**249585**

Kupwara district was initially part of the erstwhile Baramulla district and in July 1979, it was carved out as a separate district.

Kupwara district was initially part of the erstwhile Baramulla district and in July 1979, it was carved out as a separate district.

The geographical area of the district is 2379 sq Kms.The district is flanked in the east and south by Baramulla district and in the west and north by LOC separating it from Muzafarabad district presently under the illegal occupation of Pakistan. It is located about 90 Kms. from Srinagar in the north -west corner of Kashmir Valley.

The district is situated at an altitude of 5300 feet (above sea level) with varied topography. The western,northern and eastern areas of the district are plain.

A Himalayan spur goes down from Zojila to west separating the Kishanganga valley from the main Kashmir Valley .The spur is crossed by the main Srinagar -Gilgit route near a high pass called Rajdhani pass, joining Gurez area with Bandipore. This southern extention is called Kazinag range,the home of big Markhore goat . The Zojila-Kazinag spur is crossed by some famous passes like Tutmar Gali, Nastachun Gali,Farkyan Gali and Jar Gali connecting Leapa Valley (POK),Karnah, Keran and Machil areas with Kupwara.

Kishanganga is the main river, originating from Himaliyan range that flows through the outer North-west areas of the district from east to west. It passes through Keran-Teetwal and finally joins the Jhelum river at Domel in Muzafarabad district of POK. There are some other streams also in various parts of the district.Famous among these are Kahmal Nallah which flows in Chowkibal, Batamaji Nallah that flows in Karnah,Mawar Nallah in Mawar, Lolab Nallah which flows in famous Lolab Valley. All these streams finally merge with Pohri Nallah, which in turn joins the river Jhelum at Doabgah, Sopore in Baramulla district.

The hilly areas of Karnah, Keran and Machil are situated on the line of control. These areas generaly remain cut-off from rest of the district during winter for about five months.Some of the areas like, Bodnambal,Jumagand,Kumkari and Lashdutt also fall in the hilly belt of the district.

The climate of the district is pleasant in spring, moderate in summer and cold in winter. During summer mercury goes upto 37 degree centigrade and in the winter it falls down to minus 10 degree. However, Karnah area experiences moderate climate during winter and it is a little hot in summer. The average rainfall in the disitrct is 100 centimeters.

The Kupwara district is surrounded by thick forests,mountain slopes and snow clad peaks from three sides.The distirct is famous for the beautiful Lollab Valley, Chokibal, Bangus and other health resorts. The district has a good potential for development of tourism because of its natural scenery,climate and topography.

The forests of Kupwara district have a wide range of woods and flowers. Deodar, kail, Pine, fir ,Elm,blue fir are found in abundance. Chinar, poplars, willows, walnuts are grown in the area. The forests of the area are also rich in minor forest products.There is a wide range of medicinal herbs in the erea,the local names of the herbs are Rattanjog, Kuth,Memaikh, Booja Khaupittries, Gugal dhoop etc.

The area has a vast range of wild life. The dense forests provide a good habitat environment for birds and animal life. Birds like Crows, Vultures, Falcons, Woodpeackers, Swallows, Bush chat, fly catchers, bulbul ,Doves, Pigeons, wild Ducks, Sparrow and wild-cock are found in the district.

Among wild animals there are black bear, Red bear, Tigers, Jackals, fox, markhore, Musk Deer, wild goats, monkeys and wild bulls.

According to the Census of 1981 ,the population of the district was 3.29 lakhs and according to the estimated figures of 1991 it had risen to 4.44 lakh. Rural population forms 96 per cent of the total population. The projected male population was 2.39 lakhs and the female population was 2.05 lakhs. The growth rate of recorded population is 28 per cent.The biggest ethnic group is Muslims who account for about 98 per cent of the total population. Average house hold size is 7 members. The density of population is 131 souls per sq.km.As per the 1981 Census, Handwara and Kupwara towns have been classified as Urban. The population of both the towns was estimated to be 14,000 souls.

The estimated scheduled tribes population is about 60,000 and scheduled castes population is 500 only.Out of total projected population, about 31 per cent constitutes the working force. The majority of the work force is engaged in cultivation and agriculture.Rest of the work force is engaged in live-stock, hunting,trade and commerce,transportation,industry, construction work,mining, and other services. Out of the total estimated population component of work force is more than one lakh persons out of which 0.95 lakh are male and about 0.05 lakh are female.

For administrative purposes, the district has been divided into three tehsils-Kupwara, Handwara and Karnah. The district comprises of 369 villages,out of which 4 villages are un-inhabited.As per the records of Revenue department,there are 115 patwar halqas,23 Girdawari circles, 17 Niabats and 224 Panchayats. There are 8 Community Development blocks in the district. Handwara tehsil is the largest having 183 villages and three community development blocks,followed by Kupwara tehsil which has 137 villages and 4 community development blocks. The Karnah tehsil has only 49 villages and one block. The eight community development blocks and NES blocks of the district are,Langate Rajwara,Kaamhall,Kupwara, Sogam, Trehgam, Karaibora and Tangdhar.

There are two Notified area committees for Kupwara and Handwara towns. The district has been divided into 5 legislative assembly constituencies, i.e. Karnah,Trehgam Kupwara,Handwara and Langate.

DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO:

Since creation of the District in the year 1979, Government have made concerted efforts to give fillip to the development activities by providing sufficient funds for various sectors. Many development and welfare schemes were initiated and successfully implemented through the active participation of the public. In the year 1979-80,the development plan for the district was formulated at Rs.2.81 crores which has swelled 14 times and 1996-97 plan formulation was fixed at Rs.29.51 crores. Out of this plan allocation Rs.28.45 crores were spent on execution of various developmental and social programmes by the end of March,1997. Development plan for 1997-98 had been formulated at Rs.32.45 crores.

District Plan 1997-98

(Rs.in lakhs)

S.No.	Sector	Outlay	Expenditure (Provisional)
1.	Agriculture and Allied Services.	681.75	605.15
2.	Rural Development	469.24	368.58
3.	Industries	101.12	100.73
4.	Communication	486.00	452.31
5.	Energy	130.00	250.00
6.	Social & General Services	1371.36	1163.93
7.	Others	6.20	10.23
	Total:	**3245.67**	**2950.93**

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is the backbone of the economy of the district. The Government treat the sector with priority and the thrust is being given to the integrated development of this sector. Nearly 84% of the population depend on this sector. The total Agriculture area of the district is 61,992 hectares, which is 70% of the total cultivable area. 23000 hectares have irrigation facilities and 18000 hectares are under maize cultivation. Nearly 17000 hectares are under wheat, oilseed, vegetables and fodder cultivation.

Paddy is the stable product of the district. However, people living in the border and hilly areas are growing maize as their main crop.

Government have launched various schemes to increase the food production by bringing more area under high yielding variety of seeds, taking adequate measures against diseases and providing hybrid seeds and introducing crash crops like Mushroom and Potato cultivation. Various other schemes undertaken are providing incentives by way of subsidy, setup of demonstration plots and supply of Agriculture implements to the farmers.

About 31,000 hectares of land has been brought under high yielding variety seeds while as 12000 hectares of land in the rabi season. 15,500 hectares of croped area have been brought under plant protection measures. Fertilizer off-take during kharif and rabi seasons has been of the order of 3500 matric tonnes. 315 demonstration plots under paddy, maize and vegetables were laid and 261 Agriculture implements including shalimar ploughs have been distributed among the farmers during the year. 124 qtls of improved quality of paddy, maize and pulses and 50 qtls of potato seed were distributed among the farmers community. As many as 150 mushroom trays and 75 beehive colonies were distributed among the progressive farmers while as, 10 qtls of honey was produced in the private sector.

The annual production of food grains in the district is estimated at 80,000 tonnes. Similarly the annual production of oil seeds and pulses has gone upto 16,000 tonnes. The department has introduced a new variety of paddy namely K-448 in the district which has shown better progress. To boost the Agriculture activities effectively in the district, a comprehensive zonalization plan has already been formulated. The district has been divided into 3 Agriculture Sub-Divisions viz Kupwara, Karnah and Handwara. Besides, 27 Agricultural zones and 134 agriculture circles are in operation in the district.

The soil conservation wing of the Agricutlure department constructed 98 check dams, 33 water reserviors and 513 running motors of diversion drains to arrest soil errosion.

HORTICULTURE

Kupwara is the second largest fruit growing district in the Valley. It has registered rapid progress on horticulture sector. New orchards have been developed. The total area under orchards is 30,000 hectares. Keeping in view the potential for growing fruits, both temperate and subtropical, the Horticulture department has launched various schemes, which have yielded encouraging results. The production of fresh/dry fruits in the district in the year 1997-98 was estimated to be more than a crore tonnes, constituting about 30 percent of the total fruit production of the state. The district is famous for the special variety of Walnuts called "KAKZI AKHROTE".

The district has been divided into 10 horticulture zones for imparting necessary technical and scientific guidance to orchardists. Five fruit plant nurseries have been established in the district for providing quality plant material to the orchardists.

The department is implementing 5 schemes, aimed at development of horticulture through intensive and extensive means of fruit cultivation,besides bringing additional area under fresh fruit cultivation.Special attention is being paid to cultivation of dry fruits in the upper reaches of the district.However,80 percent of the fruit produced is apple,10 percent walnut and the rest Pears, Almonds and Apricots.

Since 1988 about Rs.2.93 crores have been spent on horticulture development in the district.

As regards expansion of area under orchards, the scheme named "development of Horticulture in Dry and Hilly areas" is in progress. As many as 300 hectares of land were additionally brought under Horticulture plantation, 4200 hectares of orchard area were treated and 700 hectares brought under chemical fartilizer. Besides, 1800 metric tonnes of fertilizer were provided to the orchardists. A sum of Rs.22.91 lacs was spent for providing pesticides, tools, plant fencing material and harvesting tanks to small and marginal farmers of the district.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

The district abounds in grazing pastures and meadows with rich vegetation which provide a conducive environment for promotion of animal husbandry.

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After agriculture, live stock rearing is the main economic persuit of the people. The district is progressive in development of animal husbandry.

The cattle population of the district has gone upto 3.50 lac heads which include 1.20 lac cross breed. Over Rs.44.30 lac were incurred for the overall development of animal husbandry.

As many as 80 veternary units, besides, one hospital are operating in the district. These units have been converted into artificial insemination centres. The department proposes to setup an "Equine Farm" and a dairy unit under "Integrated dairy Development Programme".

During the year 1997-98, 37000 animals were administrated "Rinderpast vaccine" while as 2.70 lacs cattle heads and poultry birds were vaccinated to protect them from various contagious and non-contagious diseases.

Special emphasis is also being laid on better production of poultry birds in the district. The department has established a poultry farm at Trehgham where about 6000 birds are being reared annually. As many as 15 poultry farms have been registered in private sector.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY

The district has achieved a major break through in transforming the local Kashmiri sheep into the improved variety of Mariono which is known for high yielding mutton and sleek wool.

The vast grazing pastures particularly in Lolab, Machhil,Taya and Bangus areas, provide good potential for promotion of sheep husbandry in the district.The Government, have launched various programmes for improving population and quality of sheep in the district. A sheep farm of improved quality Marino has been established at Poshwari, Handwara.

To provide better medical care and breeding facility, 68 sheep extension centres are functioning in the district. Because of the concerted efforts of the Government, the sheep population has gone upto 2.65 lac which included 1.07 lac of cross breed merino sheep. The mutton and wool production has gone upto 15 lac kgs. and 4.32 lac kgs respectively in the district.

The department has imported corotidale rams from Shopiyan for cross breeding purposes. The Marino sheep has earned prizes in many sheep shows held at various places of the district. The Amroohi area of Karnah Sub-Division is famous for Marino sheep rearing. The yearly expenditure on the rearing and careing of sheep husbandry has gone to 20.96 lac.

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HEALTH

Integrated efforts are on to achieve the target of Health for all by 2010 AD. The sector has received priority attention of the Government. Against the expenditure of RS.1.35 crore in 1994-95, more than Rs.2.02 crore were spent on this sector in 1996-97.

The district has a net work of 227 institutions which include one District Hospital, 3 Sub-district hospitals, one community health centre, 46 Medical aid centres, 27 primary health centres, 125 Sub centres,7 Family Welfare & 2 Subsidary centres, one Tuberclosis clinic, 2 Laprosy Control Units, one Laprosy Control society and 3 Survey Eradication Treatment Centres. During 1996-97,one sub district hospital at Sogam and two primary health centres (new type at Drugmulla and Nowgam Langate) were established.

The Health institutions operating in the district have a fleet of 24 Ambulances to cater emergency and other requirements. In order to eradicate menace of polio by 2008, pulse polio immunizations were conducted in the district. During the Ist phase as many as 87,600 children upto 5 years age were immunized against polio under National Pulse Imminization Programme.

EDUCATION

The Government has paid special attention for promotion of education in the district as it has only 19% rate of literacy which is lowest as compared to other districts of the valley. In order to achieve the universalization of the Education among all school going children, many developmental schemes like extension of Educational activities under the Border Area Development Scheme, Operation Black Board and Non-formal education programme have been introduced. The sector has received top priority in allotment of funds under district plan. Accordingly more than Rs.3.42 crores were spent on execution of various educational developmental programmes.

Number of Educational Institutions has gone upto 790 which included 2 Degree Colleges, 14 Higher Secondary Schools, 54 High Schools, 115 Middle Schools,580 Primary Schools. The enrollment of the students has reached upto 71,107 including 27,577 girl students.

Under Border Area Development Scheme 146 Primary and Middle school buildings were taken up for construction out of which 85 school buildings were completed by March,1997. Two middle schools were upgraded to High schools and one High school to Higher Secondary school. Out of gutted school buildings, as many as 60 buildings were re-constructed by the end of March,1997 and handed over to the education department.

JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJNA AND EMPLOYMENT ASSURANCE SHEME

Jawahar Rozgar Yojna and the Employment Assurance Scheme are two poverty alleviation schemes aimed at bettering the lot of economically weaker sections and to provide employment opportunities to the rural population and to create durable assets. Under the J.R.Y., as many as 461 developmental works were taken in hand at a cost of Rs.2.71 crores out of which 280 development works were completed, which has generated 3.50 lac mandays of work in the district.

Under Indira Awas Yojna as many as 5 villages were covered. And 243 house-hold latrines and 7 latrines in the schools and Anganwari Centres are under construction at a cost of Rs.9.00 lacs.

Employment Assurance Scheme has been introduced in all the 8 blocks of the district so that development activities are accelerated and better employment opportunities to the rural un-employed paople are provided.

As many as 1506 developmental works were taken in hand for execution at a cost of Rs.12,00 crores, out of which 482 works were completed while 1024 works were at advance stage of construction. This has generated 5.95 lac mandays of work.

The details of the works under execution under E.A.S is as under:-

1.	Eood godowns	81 Nos.
2.	Anganwari Centres	94 Nos.
3.	Sub-Health Centre buildings	82 Nos.
4	DWCRA Shops/Panchayat ghars	22 Nos.
5.	Area covered under afforestation	580 hectares
6.	Horticulture Plants planted	75000 Nos.

INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Integrated Rural Development Programme has been launched to provide financial assistance by way of subsidy and loan to the poor, so that they are able to set up their own income generating Units. Object of the programme is to up-lift the people living below poverty line. As many as 56,381 persons were identified living below poverty line. Efforts are under way to bring these persons above poverty line by providing them financial assistance under I.R.D.P.

There was a target to establish 1264 income generating units out of which 858 units were established at a subsidy of Rs.52.67 lac and bank loans of Rs.96.24 lac.

DWCRA

The Programme is aimed at the development of women and children in rural areas. As many as 24 Co-operative income generating societies of rural women were established providing benefit to 360 women of the district. A sum of Rs.9.95 lac was provided to these societies as revolving grant.

SPORTS AND YOUTH WELFARE

During the year 1996-97 an amount of Rs.9.00 lac was earmarked for the promotion of youth service and sports. Out of which more than Rs.7 lac were spent sofar.

As many as 120 youth camps were conducted in which 1000 students were imparted training in sports activities, 250 students were led to trekking activities and 9 play grounds were developed in the district.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Under the Border Area Development Programme, the District Information Centre, Kupwara organised various cultural activities, which included holding of 8 Mushairas in Urdu, Kashmiri, Pahari and Gujri, 10 Folk music-cum-Cultural Programmes, 4 seminars, 6 debates, one calligraphy contest and one Mahfil-i-Afsana at various places of Kupwara, Karnah and Handwara tehsils.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Function of Social Welfare Department is to uplift the deprived sections of the society. With this objective, the department provided financial assistance to the deserving including old, infirm and destitute individuals of the society. Accordingly financial assistance worth Rs.63.00 lac were provided to 6151 widows, destitutes and handicapped persons under Integrated Social Security Scheme.

Under the National Social Assistance Programme, 2628 aged widows and

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pregnant ladies were provided financial assistance of Rs.12.30 lac besides over 2100 students were provided Rs.7 lac as merit cum poverty scholarships.

SOCIAL FORESTRY

Social Forestry aims at creating resources for meeting the fire-wood, fodder, timber and other forest produce requirements of people in shortest possible time and decreasing the load on forests by planting trees on vacant land. There is one Social Forestry Project in the district. Since 1982,when the project was launched, an area of 18,385 hectares was covered under plantation under social forestry sofar. An amount of Rs.39.74 lac was spent on the development of this sector.

FORESTS

Forests are known as green gold. A renowned saint of Kashmir Sheikh Noor-ud-Din Wali, has said "Unn-Poshi Tali Yali Wan Poshi" "As long as forests last, food will accrue".

Considering the importance of forests for the mankind, Government has taken strenuous measures for preventing deforestation, rehabilitation of degraded forests, afforestation and above all, forest protection. This is an important step which, has become a ray of light after a long siege of darkness and therefore, is showing prosperous results.

As a matter of fact district Kupwara is rich in forest wealth, with 1500 square kmts of forest land. For its best administrative control and management, Forest Department has established three forest divisions viz "Kamraj','Kehmil and 'Langate',besides one special Forestry project.

Rs.32.41 lac were spent for the rehabilitation of degraded forests and forest protection. Over 2.73 lac plants were planted on 258 hectares of land and on 1.04 lac Rfts. fencing was done by the forest department sofar. Moreover, 38 kmts forest footpath and 2 protection huts were constructed by the department besides setting up of one nursery comprising 16 hectares of land for the promotion of Deodar in the district.

SERICULTURE

The main activity of the sericulture department is to provide mulberry plants and silk worm seeds to the farmers for increasing cocoon production. The department has set-up 6 nurseries, spread over an area of 266 kanals in the district. The department has also established mulberry farms over an area of 236 kanals. In these farms improved variety of mulberry plants are grown. 1.16 lac seedlings were planted and 47,800 plants, covering 530 kanals of land, were planted under mulberry plantation whileas 92,560 plants were distributed among the farmers of the district for plantation.

The department has set up 65 incubation centre in the district and distributed 13,841 ounces of silkworn seed among silkworm rearers. About 24000 kgs. of cocoon production was recorded Rs.17.85 lac were incurred on sericulture development in the district.

FISHERIES

The district has a great potential for development of fisheries. There are 60 nallahs and fresh water streams flowing in the district. The Fisheries Department has taken up stocking of Trouts in various feasible streams for angling purposes.

About 10,000 qtls of trents and fingerlings were stocked in various ponds/ streams in 1996-97. More than a hundred fishermen were covered under "Group Accidential Insurance Scheme" and Rs.3.57 lac were spent for the promotion of this sector.

INDUSTRIES

There is great scope for setting up wood based cottage and marble Industries in the district, as the district has rich deposits of marble and lignite with thick forests. Although not much has been done in this sector, but in order to exploit these natural resources, the Government has given mining lease to 15 firms. Out of which 7 Industrial units were established for extraction, cutting and processing marble produce.

With registration of more small scale Industrial units the number of Industrial Units has gone up to 205 in the district. Under the TRYSem Programme youths were trained in various crafts.

SELF EMPLOYMENT / P. M. R. Y SCHEME

The Scheme is aimed at providing Self Employment to the educated youth. As many as 154 self employment cases were sponsored to the banks for sanction of loans for setting up of self employment units against which 68 cases with a loan component of Rs.45.35 lacs were sanctioned sofar.

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HANDICRAFTS AND HANDLOOMS

To improve economic condition of the weaker section and un-employed youth, the Handicraft and Handlooms department imparts training to the youth in various crafts. The Handicrafts department has 18 elementry and 10 advance training centres which imparts training to 665 trainees in Sozni, Chainstich and stapple. The trainees are provided monthly stipend of Rs.200/- each during the period of their training. The department has registered 6 Co-operative societies by the end of March,1997. The yearly expenditure for this sector has gone upto Rs.31.16 lac.

The Handloom department had incurred Rs.15.79 lacs for the development of Handloom activites. There are 12 Handloom training Centres and one Co-operative society functioning in the district, in which 60 weavers were imparted training. About 2.00 lac meters of cloth costing Rs.1.60 crores were manufactured in these centres.

TRIBAL SUB-PLAN

The Government is making strenous efforts for the upliftment of the Gujjar and Bakerwal communities which have been declared as schedule tribe. The total population of the community is about 65,000.

In order to ensure additional income generation in the tribal areas, 10527 beneficiaries were covered under different programmes implemented in these areas, 360 number of shalimar ploughs and 228 tarpulin pieces on 50% subsidy and Hybrid vegetable seed kits were provided to 516 families of the community. 4900 families were provided fruit plants on 75% subsidy and 200 Foot Pumps on 50% subsidy were provided under Harticulture Development Programme, 60 families were covered under Sheep Husbandry sector by providing Sheep/Goat rearing units on 50% subsidy and 300 trainees were provided stipend at the rate of Rs.100/- per candidate under Handicraft sector.

One Gujjar and Bakerwal Hostel has already been set up providing free lodging, boarding and education facilities to 50 students of the community.

ROADS AND BUILDINGS

The district has total road length of 805 kmts. which include 209 kmts black topped, 222 kmts metalled, 247 kmts. shingled, 105 kmts. fair weather and 21 kmts. Jeepable. Additional road length of 7 kmts was black topped, 23 kmts. metalled and 16 kmts shingled by the Raods and Buildings department during 1996-97.

Out of total 369 villages of the district, 256 villages are linked with all weather or fair weather roads. Efforts are on to provide road linkage to remaining 113 villages.

As many as 92 raod development schemes with an estimated cost of Rs. 14.25 crores had spilled over to year 1995-96. Out of which 66 schemes were completed with total expenditure of Rs.10.64 crores.

Over Rs.1.00 crore was spent on the re-construction of 2 gutted bridges at Gushi and Batgund and improvement/over-guage metteling in 14th,15th and 16th kilometer of Handwara-Magam-Shaloora road. About Rs.6.00 crores will be spent on the re-construction of Bridges at Younfsoo, Porapath, Dandakadal, Lengate and Nowgam.

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING

Efforts are underway to provide potable drinking water to the entire population in the district. Out of 369 census villages of the district,359 villages and 2 towns with a population of 3.35 lakh persons were provided potable drinking water facilities and over Rs.4.23 crore were spent on the development of this sector in 1997-98.

Keeping in view the increasing demand of potable water supply, 28 functional water supply schemes were identified for improvement and upgradation by way of raising capacity of service reserviors, augmentation on intake capacity and strengthening of distribution system at an estimated cost of over Rs.6.26 crores in the district. The work on these schemes is in progress and is expected to be completed by 1999. The augmentation scheme of water supply for Kupwara town is expected to be completed soon at a cost of Rs.2.25 crores which included recently commissioned 2 lakh gallon capacity water filteration plant. Over 15000 souls living in Kupwara town and 5 other adjoining villages will get benifit of filtered water.

The Public Health Engineering Division Kupwara had 76 water supply schemes under execution which had spilled-over from 1993-94, at estimated cost of Rs.27.24 crores. Rs. 2.57 crores were spent on various schemes and construction of Filteration Plant Kupwara.

MINOR IRRIGATION

Government is making efforts to increase and augment irrigation facilities in the district. Rs.2.61 crores were spent on the execution of 16 irrigation

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schemes. And 100 hectare of additional land was provided irrigation facilities raising the total irrigation land up to 23100 hectares sofar.

There are 35 kanals, 122 storage tanks and 4 lift irrigation stations, which provide irrigation facilities in the district. The famous khuls of the district are Lalkhul, Zasbani khul and Chowkibal-Magam khul.

POWER SUPPLY

Power supply is the main requisite for maintaining essential services, industrial activities and telecommunications etc.

Government puts every effort to stablize supply of electricity in the district. To achieve this, Kupwara district has been divided into 4 zones under Rural Electrification Scheme. Over Rs.4.32 crores were spent on this scheme during past three years. As many as 63 Nos. of 100/63 K.V. Transformers were installed,64 kmts of H.T. line and 138 kmts. of L.T. Line were laid in all the 4 zones of the district. To meet the increasing demand of power in the district, land has been identified for system improvement scheme at Gonipora, Handwara for improving and strengthening the infrastructure Grid station constructed at Arampora with a cost of Rs.12.50 crores is providing good service to ensure power distribution in the district.

Efforts are under way for covering all the 369 villages under electrification. 11 more villages were electrified, raising the number of electrified villages of the district to 348. The villages which are yet to be electrified are receiving electricity through diesel generators. As a matter of fact, 2 diesel generator sets of 110 KV capacity each have been installed at Machil and Keran of Kupwara district.

2 MW Micro Hydle Projects completed and commissioned at a cost of Rs.20,00 crores is providing electricity in border Sub-division of Karnah. Besides another 0.7 M.Ws capacity Mini Hydle Power Project at Machil is under construction at a cost of Rs.6.83 crores.

1. Muqam-e-Shahwali Mazzar-e-Shrief of Zatishah located at village Mugam near Drugmulla four kms. from Kupwara town in the south east. People from all faiths visit the shrine. Urs is celebrated in the month of May for three days every year.
2. Ziarat-i-Baba AbdullahGaziSituated at Kralpora Guzrail about 20 kms. from Kupwara town in the North west.Baba Abdullah was a disciple of Baba Naseed-ud-Din Gazi.

3. Shrine of ParkashAkhoon Locatecd at Gushi 3 kms. from Kupwara town. Parkash Pandit was a prominent scholar of Arabic, Persian, Urdu and Sanskrit languages. Taught Quran-e-Shariefand other religious books to the people of the area.
4. Shrine ofMir Ibrahim Ziarat of Mir Mohammad Ibrahim is located at Kanthpora in Lolab Valley.
5. Kheer Bhawani Asthapan Located at Tikker on ChowkibalRoad one km. from Kupwara town. Anniversary is celebrated in the month of April-May every year.
6. Badri Kali Asthapan Situated about 14 Kms. away from Handwara towards Handwara-Wadipora road, the temple of Goddess Kali popularly known as 'Badri-Kali' is located at a hill top amidst thick forests. Annual festival is held in September when people of all walks throng to have darshan of this deity.
7. Jamia Masjid Kupwara: This is the largest mosque of Kupwara district, in the heart of Kupwara town still under construction. About 10,000 people can offer prayers at a time.

FAMOUS SPRINGS

1.Kajinag	Located at Kajinag mountain range.
2. Trehgam Nag	Trehgam town.
3. Ghazi Nag	Ghazrial Karalpora.
4. Zatishah Nag	Muqam-e-Shahwali Drugmulla.
5. Lole Nag	Lalpora Lolab
6. Shuma Nag	Shumnag Trehgam
7. Mir Nag	Haihama Kupwara.

FAMOUS MOUNTAIN RANGES, PEAKS AND PASSES

1. Kijinag Mountain Range
2. Shamas Bary Peak
3. Caves of Raja Ram
4. Asmala Slope

5. Tumar Pass Connects Nogam sector with Leepa Valley POK
6. Nastachun PassConnects tehsil Karnah with Chowkibal
7. Farktan Pass Connects Keran with main Kashmir Valley.
8. Lasha Dutt Pass and These passes connect Sharda area with Shalbhattoo Valley.
9. Jar PassConnects Machil area with Lolab Valley.
10. Harwan Pass This Pass connects Bandipora with famous Lolab Valley.
11. Kukwa PassConnecting Karnah with Taya Rangwar Pastures.

FAMOUS TOURIST SPOTS

1. BUNGUS:- Situatedin Kupwara district about 150 kmts in the North West of Summer capital of Srinagar, this beautiful hill-spot falls in the lap of lofty snow capped peaks of Shamsbury range of mountains with a length of 20 kmts. and breadth of 15 kmts.

There are two main routes, one from Handwara via Satkoji and the other from Chowkibal via Malasari to step in the spot.

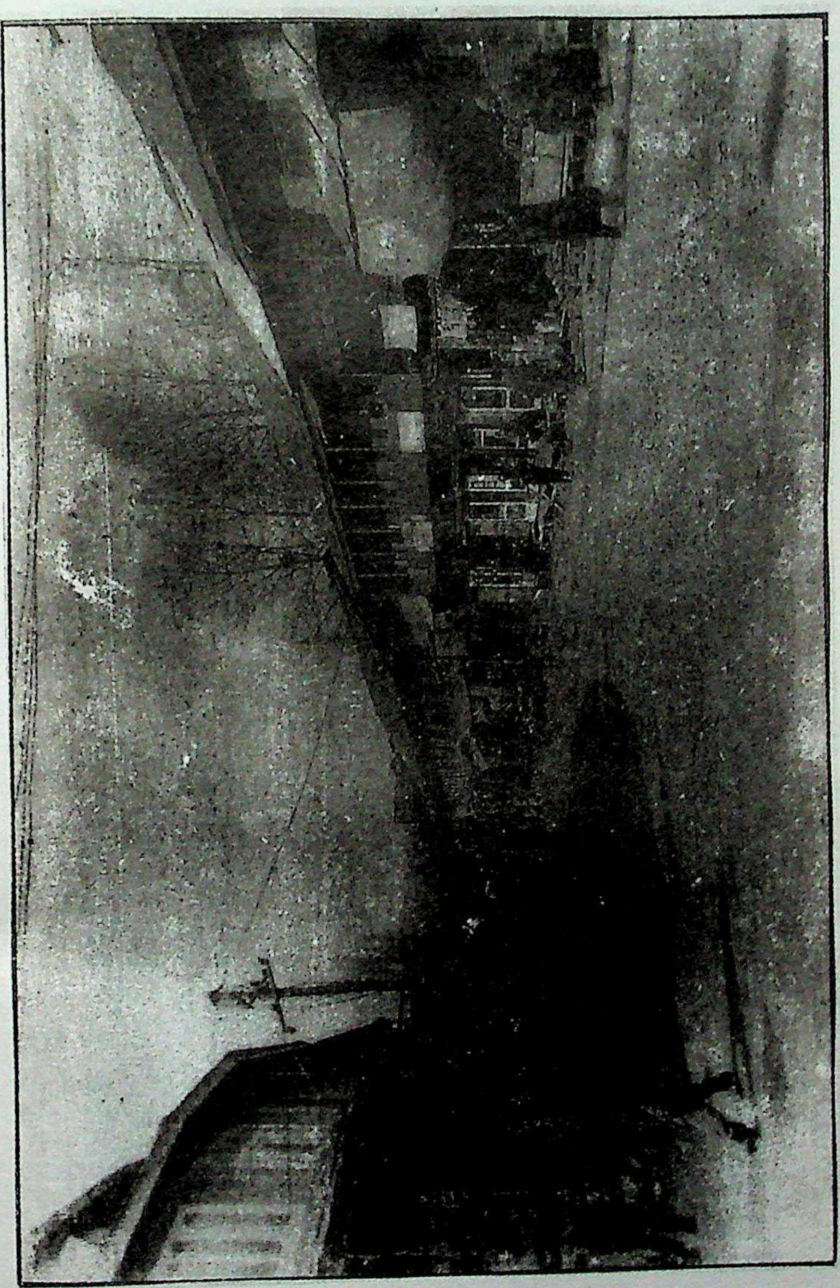
The Government had formulated a plan to bring this place on the tourist map and a survey has been conducted by the government to construct a Golf course, which will be one of the biggest Golf course in the Asia.

2/3 CHANDIGAM AND DORSA:-Both the places are Tourist resorts, situated in the famous Lolab Valley at a distance of 16 and 18 kts. from Kupwara respectively.

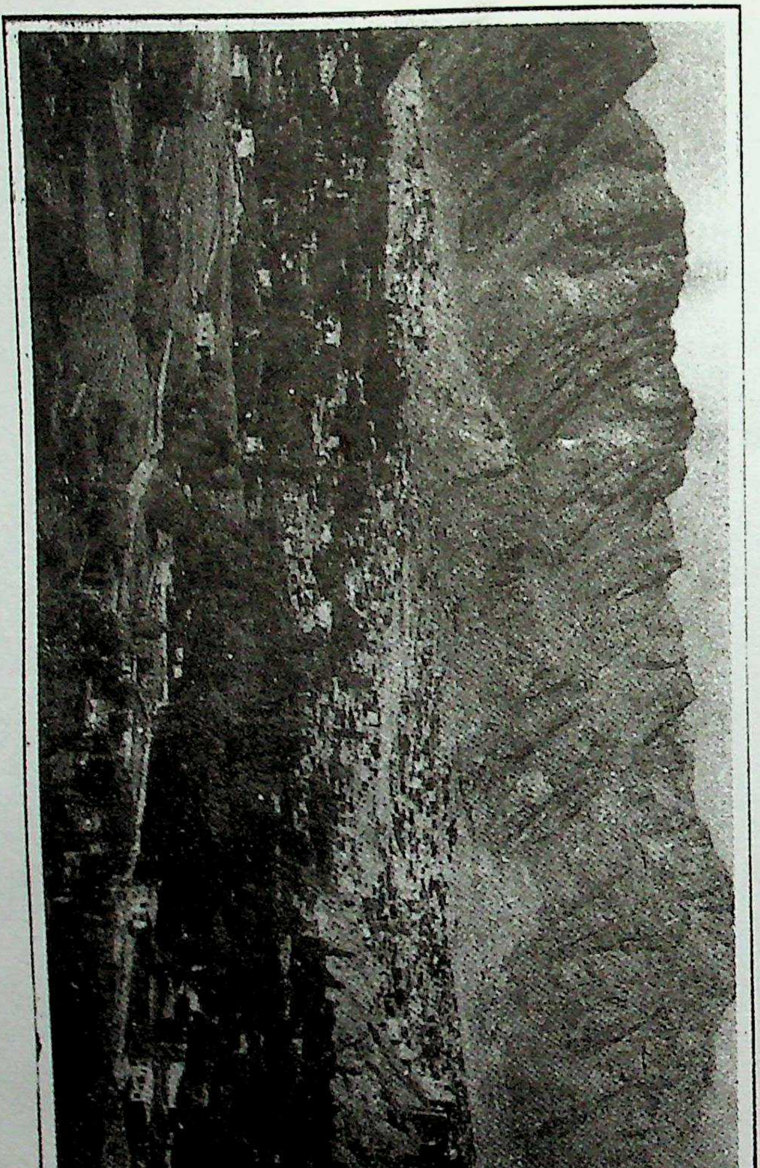
4.DRINGYARI:-38 Kmts. from Kupwara, the place situated on Chowkibal-Tangdar Road has magestic conifur trees and singing streams flowing amidst the spot,and has great potential to be developed as a tourist spot.

WHO'S WHO

	Telephone Nos.	
	Office	Residence
	STD Code 01955	
Deputy Commissioner,	52343	52333
Addl. Dy. Commissioner	-	-
Superintendent of Police,	52250	52345/348
Chief Medical Officer,	52268	52278
District Information Officer,	52203	52346
Mr. Altaf Ahmad Minister of State for Social Welfare & Labour	549676 546437	
Chowdhary Mohammad Ramzan Forest Minister, J & K		
Mr. Kafil-u-Rehman M.L.A. S Kamah		
Mr. Saifullah M.L.A. Kupwara		
Mr. Mushtaq Ahmed Lone M.L.A. Lolab		
Mr. Abdul Ahad Kar M.L.A. Langate		
Haji Mohammad Sultan M.L.C.		
Kh. Abdul Gani Lone Former Minister		
Abdul Gani Mir Former Minister		



KUPWARA TOWN



A view of Leh town

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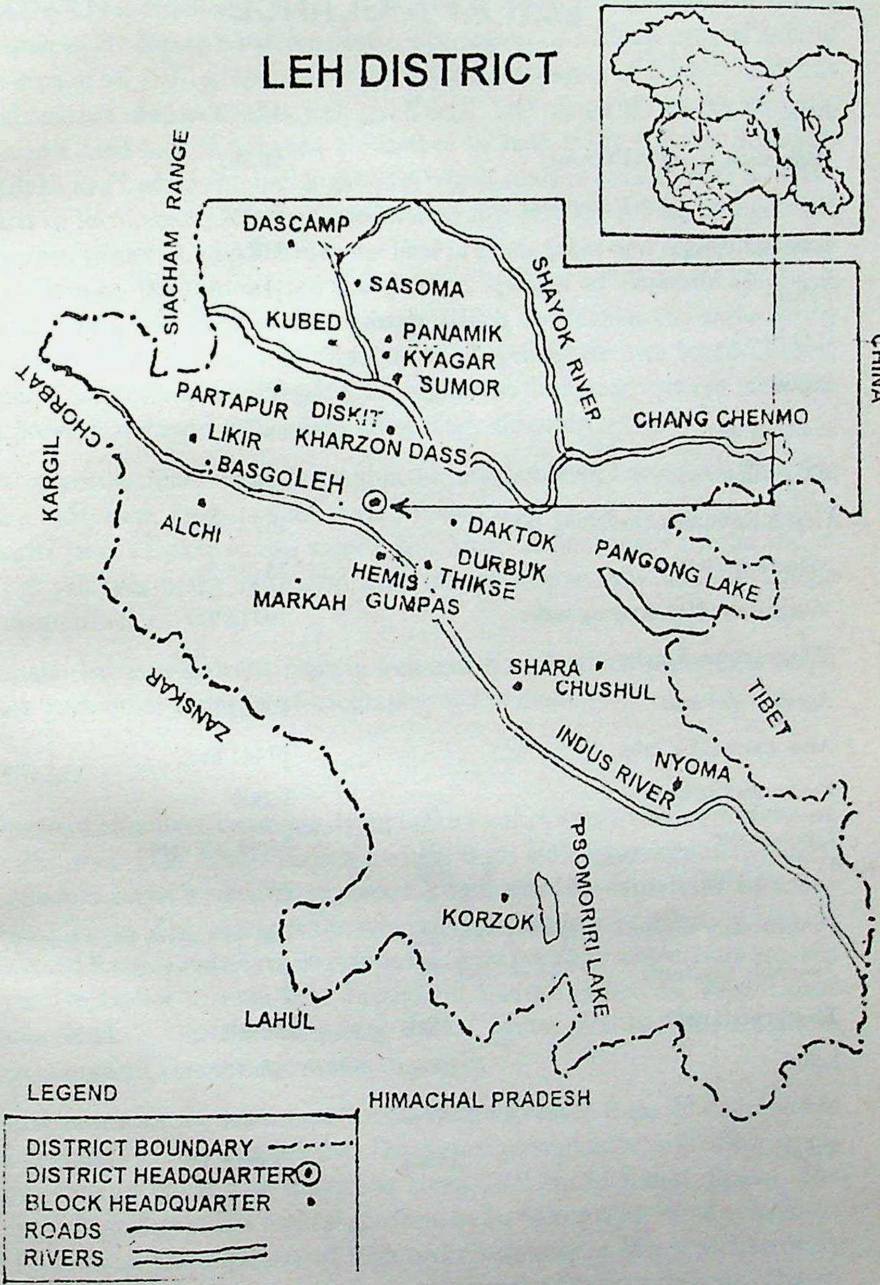
LEH DISTRICT


SIACHAM RANGE
DASCAMP
SASOMA
KUBED
PANAMIK
KYAGAR
SUMOR
SHAYOK RIVER
CHINA
PARTAPUR
DISKIT
LIKIR
KHARZON DASS
CHANG CHENMO
CHORBAT
KARGIL
BASGO
LEH
ALCHI
DAKTOK
DURBUK
PANGONG LAKE
HEMIS
THIKSE
MARKAH
GUMPAS
SHARA
CHUSHUL
TIBET
ZANSKAR
INDUS RIVER
NYOMA
PSOMORIRI LAKE
KORZOK
LAHUL
HIMACHAL PRADESH
LEGEND
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
DISTRICT HEADQUARTER
BLOCK HEADQUARTER
ROADS
RIVERS

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LEH AT A GLANCE

Area	44,000 sq. kms
Population (1981 census)	68,381
(1991 estimate)	92,000
Inhabited villages	112
Tehsils	1
C.D.Blocks	5
Town	1
Panchayats	68
Ed. Institutions	278
Health Institutions(including ISM)	167
Villages electrified	75 (3/95)
Villages provided drinking water	102 (3/95)
Villages covered under Agrarian Reforms	100 (3/95)
Area under HYV crop	17441 hect.
Ration card holders	16000
Literacy rate	24.43 per cent
Live-stock population	397700
Parliamentary segment	Part of Ladakh constituency
Assembly segments	2

Electorate(1998)	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Leh	30660	24479	60139
Nobra	4902	5464	10366
Total	**35562**	**34943**	**70505**

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LADAKH is situated between 30 degree to 36 degree east latitude and 76 degree to 79 degree north longitude. The region of Ladakh spread over to an area of 96,701 sq. kms.and comprising a population of 2 lakhs habitants and consists of two districts, Leh and Kargil. The region of Ladakh normally remains land locked between November to June every year as Srinagar-Ladakh and Ladakh-Monali highways, which connect Ladakh with the other parts of the country, remain closed during this period because of snow and rigorous winter. Ladakh is also the land of many lakes and springs. Among the springs, the famous are the sulphur springs of Panamic (Nobra), Chumathang and Puga of Changthang, which are famous for early curing of joints/rheumatic diseases. Many mineral springs are also found in some remote parts of Ladakh. People of the region use the spring water as medicine to prevent and cure themselves from many diseases.

The important lakes which fall within the jurisdiction of Ladakh are Pangong lake (150 kms. long , 4 kms wide situated at a height of 14000 ft.) Tso-moriri lake, (Tsokar means salty lake). Since ancient times till the end of 1959 salt was being extricated from this particular salty lake for human consumption.

Ladakh has two districts namely Leh and Kargil which stand in contrast with each other in terms of geography and climate.

Climate

The great Himalaya mountain, lying to the south, forms a barrier to monsoon in this area. Due to this reason Ladakh is an isolated cold desert region. Altitude in Ladakh varies from place to place and is the main factor affecting local climate. The winter temperature touches as low as minus 30 degree (Leh and Kargil) and minus 60 degree in (Drass) subzero temperature prevails from December to February throughout Ladakh, whereas, zero degree temperature is experienced during rest of winter months. This results in freezing of all conceivable water resources.

Pradumman R. Joseph Dhar
M.A. (Eng., Pol. Sc., Hist., Eco.,)
B.Ed, LLB.

During summer the maximum temperature increases from 20 degree C to 38 degree C in July and August. The annual precipitation in Ladakh varies from about 9 cm in Leh district to about 23.9 cm in Kargil district. The relative humidity is low and ranges from 31 to 64 per cent. Wind velocity in the afternoon and nights is of high order resulting in heavy soil errosion with dust storm and snow boizzards which make life very difficult. Due to longer winters, the agriculture season is short and spread over from April to September depending upon the climate. The climate varies in different

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valleys of Ladakh which influences period of agriculture, type of farming, nature and variety of crop, method of cultivation and farming system. The atmosphere comprises of reduced oxygen levels (thin air) and low concentration of carbon dioxide. There is a heavy influx of infra red and ultraviolet radiations.

The main river of Ladakh is Indus, which flows in a north-west direction between Ladakh and Zanaskar ranges. It is joined by several major rivers like Zanskar, Suru and Shayok before it reaches Pakistan. Nearly all irrigation systems are gravity reliant. Most of the irrigation is being done by canals/ Khuls skillfully constructed. Water channels carrying water from its sources to the cultivated fields are the backbone of agriculture in Ladakh. At several places, melted snow water is collected during night in reservoirs built by the community for irrigation during day time. Also melted snow water is channelised directly for irrigation. Melting of snow is obviously in the afternoon, resulting in flow of large quantity of water for harnessing and irrigation during night. There is a positive correlation between maximum day time temperature and rate of flow of water. The snow melted water from snow clad peaks is brought by the community to the villages and fields by constructing canals. These canals were made with local skill through rough land of sand and rocks. From the main canal a network of sub-channels touch each and every field. Not a spoonful of cement has been used in their construction. The irrigation system is working very well for centuries in Ladakh region.

Of late modern irrigation technology and material is being used in construction of big canals for irrigation. Most of the recently built canals are made of cement and stone masonry work. Kurbathang in Kargil district, Stakna, Igo-Phey and Hunder in Leh district are the recently built important canals to irrigate barren and Vast lands of the desert areas of the region.

The farmers have appreciated these technologies approved by the policy makers which include gravity canal water storage tank, artificial glacier,etc. Natural water springs are also found in Ladakh and tapped for irrigation. Nearly all the water used in irrigation is from melting snow banks and glaciers and is therefore, abundent in the spring and early summer. Depending on the source, amount of precipitation, soil type and crop grown, it may need to be rationed. At times shortage of water affects yielding of crop adversely.

Besides other limitations, water is the major factor controlling the area to be cultivated, as without irrigation, farming is out of question in Ladakh.

Indus river and its tributaries have vast potential to provide gravitational irrigation. It is estimated that in Leh there are 25,274 hectares of barren cultivable land and 4,393 hectares cultivable vast land.

Now with the joint efforts undertaken by the Agiculture, Horticulture, Afforestation and Rural Development and Desert Development agencies aimed at bringing a green revolution in the cold desert areas, the district would considerably emancipate the socio-economic change in dwellings of the people who are residing at an attitude of 13000 to 15000 feet height on a barren landscope from centuries together in the desert region of Ladakh.

HISTORY

In ancient times the present Leh district was a part of Greater Ladakh spread over from Kailash Mansarover to Swaat (Dardistan). The Greater Ladakh was either under the domain of Tibet or its influence. Not much information is available about the ancient history of Ladakh. However, references about the place and its neighbourhood in Arab, Chinese and Mongolian histories give an idea that in the 7th century A.D fierce wars were fought by Tibet and China in Baltistan area of the Greater Ladakh in which deserts and barren mountains of Ladakh had turned into battle fields for the warring armies.

In the 8th century A.D.,the Arabs also jumped into these wars and changed their sides between China and Tibet. Around this period, the ruler of Kashmir, Laltadita conquered Ladakh. In the 8th century A.D. itself, the Ababs conquered Kashghar and established their control over the Central Asia which embraced Islam in the 9th century A.D. and thus a buffer state came into being between Tibet and China, terminating the hostilities between the two warring countries. The Greater Ladakh also fell to pieces.

About 3000 years ago, Ladakh was perhaps a wilderness, surrounded by Tibet, Dardistan or Gilgat, Turkistan and Pamir beyond the Karokaram range and areas of present Himachal Pradesh. With the increasing population and shrinking agricultural land and pastures in these countries, some people from there migrated in tribes or small groups to different directions and drifted to western Tibet and settled in its uninhabited areas like present Zanaskar, Purik, Baltistan etc Some of them advanced to the Ladakh proper and settled down there.

The ancient inhabitants of Ladakh were Dards, an Indo-Aryan race from down the Indus. But immigration from Tibet more than a thousand years ago largely overwhelmed the culture of the Dards and moped up their racial characters. In eastern and central Ladakh, today's population seems to be mostly of Tibetian origin. Buddhism reached Tibet from India via Ladakh. The area was the stronghold of Buddhism before Islam reached Ladakh. A peaceful penetration of Islam,was carried out by missionaries in the early 16th century whose success was guaranteed by the early conversion of the sub-rulers of Drass, Kargil and Suru Valley, now in the Kargil district. Earlier, six hundred and sixty years ago, the great muslim preacher, Mir Syed Ali Hamdani, had arrived in Ladakh. He introduced Islam here and constructed a mosque at Shey which was then the capital of Ladakh. Today, Muslims constitute over 15 per cent of the estimated 92000 population of Leh district.

A thousand years ago before the control of Tibet's ruler, Raja Skitde Nemagon, ruled over Ladakh which was known as Muryul (Red country), as most of the mountains and the soil in Ladakh wears a red tinge. Some historians, however, say that the word means a lowland because of its position in comparison to the elevated surrounding areas. In the 10th century A.D Skitday Nemagon, along with a couple of hundred men, invaded Ladakh where there was no central authority.The land was divided in small principalities, which were at war with each other. Nemagon defeated all of them one after the other and established a strong central authority. Those days Shey, 15 kms from Leh, was the capital and Ladakh became to be known as Nariskorsoom, meaning a country of three provinces. The present Ladakh was divided into two provinces while the third comprised western Tibet. Towards the end of his life, the king divided his kingdom among his three sons, each getting a province. The area of western Tibet slipped away from the kingdom but was reunited in the 16th century A.D. by the famous Ladakhi ruler Sengge Namgyal. Ladakh was an independent country since the middle of the 10th century. While its political fortunes ebbed and flowed over the centuries, the kingdom was at its zenith in the early 17th century under king Sengge Namgyal whose rule extended across Spiti (HP) and western Tibet upto Mayumla beyond Mount Kailash and Mansarover lake.

The rugged terrain of Ladakh was traversed for centuries by caravans carrying textiles,spices,raw silk,carpets,dyestuffs and narcotics. Perhaps due to the fact that it was partly politically stable in contrast to other lawless tribes further west,it became recognised as the best trade route between Punjab and central Asia. On this long arduous route, Leh was the half way

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destination and developed into a bustling entrepot, with merchants from far off countries thronging its bazars. The famous pashmina also came from the western Tibet from where it was carried via Leh to Srinagar for its end product the world famous Pashmina shawl. Ironically, it was this lucrative trade that attracted Gulab Singh, the ruler of Jammu, to invade the country in 1834. Ladakh, together with the neighbouring province of Baltistan, was incorporated in the newly created state of Jammu and Kashmir.

In the post-partition scenario, Pakistan and China illegally occupied 78,114 sq.km and 37555 sq.km of the State, respectively while the remaining part of the State acceeded to India. Pakistan also illegally gifted 5180 Sq. kms of this area to China. Ladakh, comprising the areas of present Leh and Kargil districts, became one of the seven districts of the State. In 1979 when the reorganisation of the districts was carried out, the Ladakh district was divided into two full fledged districts of Leh and Kargil.

Religious and Historical Places

Buddhism is the religion of the majority of Leh district's population. The most attractive features of the landscape of Leh are the Buddhist Gompas (monasteries). The Gompas are situated on the highest points of the mountain spurs or sprawl over cliffsides, located in vicinity of villages and provide focus for the faith of Buddhists. These are places of worship, isolated meditation and relgious instructions for the young. Many gompas celebrate their annual festivals in winter marked by gay mask dances Gompas have a wealth of artefacts. There are also some religious places of Muslims which constitute slightly more than 15 per cent of the district's population. The famous religious places include:-

MONASTERIES

Hemis

Situated 40 kms from Leh, Hemis is the wealthiest, best known and biggest gompa of Ladakh. The annual festival of the gompa is held in summer in honour of Guru Padma Sambhav's birth anniversary. It also has the largest thanka (scroll painting on silk or brocade) in Ladakh which is unfurled once in 12 years. The next unfurling will take place in 2004. Hemis was built in 1630 AD during the reign of Sengge Namgyal and flourished under the Namgyal dynasty.

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Alchi

The gompa is situated on the banks of the Indus, 70 kms from Leh and dates a thousand years back. One of its walls features thousands of miniature sized pictures of the Buddha. The focal attractions of the gompa are three large sized images. The gompa is no longer an active religious centre and is looked after by monks from the Likir monastery.

Spituk

The gompa stands prominently on the top of a hillock, 8 km from Leh, and commands a panoramic view of the Indus Valley for miles. Many icons of Buddha and five thankas are found in the 15th centry monastery. There is also a collection of ancient masks, antique arms, and an awe inspiring image of Mahakal.

Phyang

The monastery is situated 17 kms from Leh on the Leh-Kargil road. It was built by Tashi Namgyal in the later half of the 16th century A.D. and looks like a palace from a distance. The gompa belongs to the Red Cap sect of the Buddhists. Hundreds of icons of Buddha are kept on wooden shelves.

Shey

15 Kms upstream from Leh, the palace was once residence of the royal family.The palace is believed to have been the seat of power of the pre-Tibetan kings.A 7.5 metre high copper statue of Buddha, plated with gold, and the largest of its kind, is installed in the palace.

Thikse

The Thikse monastery is spectacularly situated 19 kms from Leh. It is one of the largest and architecturally most impressive gompas. The gompa has images, stupas and wall paintings of Buddha which are exquisite.

Other monasteries of equal importance include Chemrey 45 km from Leh, Stakna, Matho, Sankar, Stok and above all Lamayuru, the oldest religious centre of Ladakh.

JAMA MASJID, LEH

The historical mosque is situated in the heart of Leh town. It was built in 1666-67 A.D. consequent to an agreement between the Mughal Emperor

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Aurangzeb and the then ruler of Ladakh, Deldan Namgyal. Since then it has been repaired and extended several times. The Mughals had facilitated withdrawal of Mongol army from Ladakh. Although Muslims had arrived in Ladakh as early as in 15th century, the Muslim shrines were constructed later than that. A couple of years ago, the Jama Masjid was dismantled and a new mosque was constructed in its place, using modern masonry skills.

MASJID-E-SHAH-E-HAMDAN

In Shey village, 15 km upstream from Leh, there is a small mosque of great historical value. The mosque, known as Shah-e-Hamdan mosque was built by one of the greatest preachers of Islam in Kashmir, Mir Syed Ali Hamdani, popularly known as Shah-e-Hamdan. He had arrived in Ladakh about seven centuries ago.

LEH PALACE

The palace is a distinguished monument and a historical building. The nine-storeyed palace was built by the 17th century illustrious ruler of Ladakh, Sengge Namgyal. It is an imposing structure, though in ruins now, situated on a hill and commands a grand view of the Leh town. The building in grand Tibetan architecture is said to have inspired the famous potala of Lahasa, built half a century later. Namgyal Tsemo, the peak overlooking the town, are the ruins of the fort built, by king Tashi Namgyal in the 16th century, as royal residence.

DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

The key to the development of any place is the development of the basic infrastructure with special focus on certain delineated thrust areas. The thrust areas in the district are the development of an effective and efficient system of communication like roads, bridges, education, health services, agriculture and optimum utilization of the energy potential, poverty alleviation and income generation by way of developing agriculture and its allied activities particularly livestock developmnet, tourism and handicrafts sectors. Ladakh being the north-eastern part of Jammu and Kashmir touching borders of China and Pakistan Occupied Kashmir has landscapes of vast cold arid deserts interspersed by oasis of greenery marking the course of the Indus and its tributaries and the haughty grandeur of some of the most challenging himalayan peaks. The people of the region have distinct culture identity, socio-religious background and language. The region attracts foreign tourists for its untamed beauty, charming seasons, picturesque setting of gompas and fascinating/colourful culture. The region comprises of two districts and accordingly two sectors have been carved in planning organisation, i.e. Leh and Kargil.

Leh district is eastern most part of Ladakh region. Although area-wise Ladakh is the largest district in the country, most of the land is barren desert.The people of the district have been striving to retain their cultural identity and this has culminated into establishment of Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council for District Leh in 1996. There are many State sector schemes to be taken up in the district under State plan of 1997-98. These include schemes under Power sector, construction of guest house/ circuit house at Leh by Hospitality and Protocol Department, etc. Annual Plan proposals under district sector for 1997-98 had been prepared by the said Council within the fixed ceiling of RS.32 crores, including additionality of Rs.5 crores, registered with Planning and Development. Some of the main sub-sectors in the district plan are detailed below:

District Plan for 1997-98

Outlay	**32.00 crores.**
Expenditure	**27.82 crores.**

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is the main stay of the people in the district. Various schemes have been reoriented in the district to boost agricultural production. About 12000 hectares are under agriculture cultivation which are almost all mino-cropped. Double cropping is undertaken in some parts of Khalsi and Nobra blocks in a very limited scale. The cropping pattern of the people here consists of grim, wheat and lesser millets. Extensive vegetable cultivation has also been introduced in the district with encouraging results. Other commercially viable crops with a scope for development include mushroom, saffron and floriculture. While the cultivation of the first has been demonstrated successfully, the last two are proposed to be tried on experimental basis.

An outlay of Rs.45.41 lakhs including Rs.7.24 lakhs had been fixed for 1997-98 for various schemes aimed at increasing agricultural production, like cultivation of high yielding varieties, providing of soil/seed testing facilities, extensive vegetable cultivation,etc.

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HORTICULTURE

Leh district falls under the cold arid zone of the country. The common fruit grown here is apricot, though apple, pear, walnut, grapes, almonds and cherries are also grown successfully in some areas. The area under fruit cultivation is 715 hectares representing about 6.2 per cent of the total cultivable area. The average production of fruit in the district is estimated at 3000 metric tonnes per annum.

Out of the five blocks of the district, fruit cultivation is carried out in three blocks of Khalsi, Leh and Nobra only. The estimated number of fruit trees in the district is 220830 (including apricot 116486, apple 90259 and others 14085). The annual rate of increase in agriculture area is 10 per cent with corresponding 15 percent increase in production. The horticultural activities in the district are carried out under the Tribal Sub-plan, District Plan and centrally sponsored schemes.

For 1997-98, an amount of Rs.17.65 lakhs including revenue component of Rs.7.23 lakhs was proposed to be spent on various schemes for horticulture development in the district,i.e.bringing of more areas under horticulture cultivation.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Animal Husbandry is a major activity in the district. The total livestock population in the district is about 80,000 out of which there are 50,000 bovines, 13,000 equines and 9,000 poultry. The district is deficient in the animal by-products such as milk, meat,eggs and butter. The per capita consumption of milk and eggs is far below the standards recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO). The estimated demand is about 17.26 thousand tonnes of milk and 14.85 million eggs annually. Against this, the estimated milk production is more than 7,000 tonnes. To bridge the gap between the demand and the production, the Animal Husbandry Department has launched various development programmes aimed at qualitative as well as quantitative improvement of livestock.The programmes include genetic improvement of livestock through upgrading and selective breeding, animal health and disease control and poultry development.A network of 43 livestock development centres providing breeding facility and health cover to the livestock in the district where stud animals are stationed for natural covering.

Outlay for 1997-98 was Rs.64.82 lakhs including revenue component of

Rs.7.17 lakhs, for implementation of schemes like genetic improvement of livestock through upgrading and selective breeding, animal health and disease control, poultry development, imporvement in production of Pashmina wool by genetic upgrading, fodder and pasture development.etc.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY

The scope for development of sheep and goats in the district is good for the reasons that harsh environmental conditions do not provide more scope for development in other fields than animal/ sheep husbandry and allied sectors. The annual production from sheep and goats in the district is Pashmina 30,000 kgs., wool 1,40,000 kgs. and meat 4,50,000 kgs. The corresponding annual income from Pashmina is Rs. 1.8 crores, wool Rs. 42 lakhs and meat Rs. 2.7 crores. There are at present 20 sheep and goat centres in the district, covering 50,000 sheep and goat as far as their health and breeding coverage is concerned. There are 15 feed banks for Changthang region to meet any calamity during winter. The Fodder Development Farms at Satkna and Matho and Pashmina Goat Project, Upshi are some of the other important development activities in the Sheep Husbandry sector. The later occupies prime position for production of stud bucks of good Pashmina quality. The farm also produces 2,500 to 3,000 quintals of dry oal alfa-alfa annually.

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING

The district comprises Leh town and 112 villages scattered over an area of 44,000 sq. kms. Provision of potable drinking water in the rugged terrain and extreme low temperature is a big challenge and a stupendous task. To the 15,000 population of the Leh town, which rises to about 25,000 in summer with the inflow of tourists and traders, 2.69 lakh gallon litres of drinking water are provided daily from Juma Bagh spring, Sankar tube well, Galung Spring and Gangles T-Trench. The water is distributed to the public through gravity system and with the use of water tankers. The supply is not sufficient and by the end of the century daily requirement is estimated at 10 lakh gallons. To meet the requirement it has been proposed to lift water from river Indus and to bore some wells above Ganqles to lift potable water from sub terrain flow. In the first place, water will be lifted by installing four tube wells in the Indus basin and water stored in reserviors at Leh town and distributed through gravitation system. A drilling rig has already been made available to the district.

In the rural water supply schemes there are two programmes in the district under MNP and ARWST. Out of the total villages, 102 were covered by March 1994. By March 1995, as many as 109 hand pumps were installed at various places in the district incurring an expenditure of Rs. 28.42 lakhs. (Involving an amount of Rs. 16.66 lakhs,) 50 hand pumps were installed around the Indus basin at Shey, Thiksay, Chuchot, Ranbirpora, Spituk and Choglamsar. Under various engineering sectors (including, Transport and Communication, Irrigation, Flood Control, NFB Urban Development, Housing and P.H.E.) an amount of Rs.1246.00 lakhs were proposed to be spent including revenue component of RS.97.37 lakhs, during 1997-98. The approved outlay for the year 1997-98 was Rs.151.37 lakhs.

MINOR IRRIGATION

Leh district is a mountainous area with arctic desert conditions. Agriculture without irrigation here is not possible. The total irrigated area in the district is about 12,000 hectares which comes to about 0.23 % of the total geographical area of the district. There are seven schemes in progress including renovation of Upshi canal at an estimated cost of Rs. 8.50 lakhs.

The approved outlay for the year 1997-98 was Rs.90.oo lakhs.

IGO-PHEY IRRIGATION PROJECT

The original project was conceived to irrigate 9000 acres of barren land between Marchelang and Phey on the left bank of the river Indus. Subsequently, it was decided to utilize the first 7.7 kms of the Igo-Phey canal as an irrigation-cum-power channel generating 3 MWs of power. The project now envisages generation of 3 to 4 MWs of power and irrigation potential of 12000 acres of barren land. After the construction of the canal, an additional command area of about 500 acres is expected to be brought under irrigation.The scheme is targetted to be commissioned in 1998-99.

HANDICRAFTS

The Handicrafts Department runs training centres in Thanka- painting, clay moulding, Ladakhi garments, Papu shoe, Namda-Felt making, silver filigri, crewel embriodery and carpet weaving. About 2,500 persons received training in these crafts, most of whom have formed cooperative societies to earn their livelihood. Allocation under this sub-sector including registered additionality will be Rs.8.90 lakhs (Rs.1.95 lakhs as revenue component). Pashmina/marina shawl weavers and Tibetian carpet weavers who are mostly women are provided various incentives and marketing facilities for their products and training centres are being run.

HANDLOOMS

Handloom is a common household activity in the district since long. As the raw wool and Pashmina is locally available in large quantity, handloom is economically viable occupation. At present six training-cum-production centres are functioning in the district. Besides, there is one mobile training-cum-demonstration centre. The main function of these centres, apart from manufacturing Pashmina and Marino shawls, is to impart training to village artisans in weaving, tailoring and manufacturing of hosiery items.

During 1995-96 an amount of Rs. 21.59 lakhs was spent. As many as 130 trainees were trained in different crafts during the period besides engaging 350 ex-trainees. The district has seven training centres with 60 trainees undergoing training in different trades. Approved outlay for 1997-98 on this sector was RS.32.07 lakhs.

TOURISM

Ladakh as a whole was introduced to tourism in 1974, prior to which there was no other economic activity save agriculture in the region. The source of attraction, called tourist product of Ladakh, are the landscape, the mountains, cultural places, monasteries and palaces, festivals and, above all, the heritage of Ladakh.

In 1974 only 500 tourists visited Ladakh. The tourist arrivals, however, subsequently picked up. During the last 20 years, the growth rate has been as many as 300 times over the 1974 figure. Foreign tourists are attracted to Leh in large numbers and in summer the Leh town virtually looks like a quarter of a western city swarmed by foreigners. The targetted tourist arrival for the current year is 25,000. The Tourism Department is giving priority to build and improve infrastructural facilities so that more and more tourists visit this place known as the Moonscape on Earth. Simultaneously, efforts are taken to preserve the rich and colourful heritage of the area.

An amount of Rs.9.58 lakhs including Rs.0.52 lakh as revenue component was proposed to be spent under this sub-sector in the district under district plan 1997-98. Main activities would include development and maintenance of lakes, trekking routes and camping sites; organisation of cultural festivals;

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improvement of Tourist Office at Leh instalment of computer system, etc.

HEALTH

To extend health cover to all, the Health Department has established a network of institutions in almost all villages of the district. About 85 per cent coverage has been achieved against the six communicable diseases. Nutrition programme is also given due stress in the district. Maternity and child welfare, family welfare, health education and environmental sanitation are other areas of activity in the district.

Leh district has one 100-bedded hospital with centrally heating system, one Sub-district Hospital at Nobra, 8 Allopathic Dispensaries, 7 Primary Health Centres, 58 Medical Aid Centres, 44 Sub-centres, 40 Amchi Centres and 10 Community Health Centres. Special attention is also given to the control of leprosy and eradication of tuberculosis.

Rs.259.00 lakhs was likely to be spent under sub-sector Health in annual plan of the district for 1997-98 includimg revenue component of RS.98.70 lakhs. The aim is to improve health care facilities already created, to open new health centres of various grades and to improve Amchi treatment methods.

EDUCATION

There has been a manifold expansion in educational facilities in Leh district for the last 16 years. The enrolment in schools has also registered a corresponding increase over the period. However,the low literacy rate particularly among females indicates that there is lot more to do. As of now,there are 278 educational institutions including one Degree College, 4 Higher Secondary Schools,22 High Schools,51 Middle Schools and 186 Primary Schools. Besides, there are about two dozen non-formal schools also functioning, including 10 part time education centres, one social centre and 11 maktabs and pathshalas. The District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) has also been strengthened to fully cater to the needs of teaching staff. The enrolment in all the educational institutions (including private schools) in the district is 19178, of which the number of boys and girls is 9425 and 9753, respectively.

To overcome the communication problems due to hazardious road conditions which restraint parents to send their children to schools, 7 residential schools have been set up one each at Leh, Temisgam, Skurbuchan, Hunder, Summor,Nobra and Nyoma. Under the Tribal Sub-plan, three residential hostels have also been set up at Khaltsi, Nyoma and Nobra. In the elementary education, the ongoing scheme of providing incentives to children in the group of 6-11 years, like uniforms, scholarships,teaching aids and mid day meals, have been extended.

An amount of Rs.440.97 lakhs including revenue component of RS.316.52 lakhs as revenue component was proposed to be spent in 1997-98 for school education under the district plan 1997-98. Rs.48.75 lakhs have been earmarked for Degree College Leh, including Rs.23.75 lakhs as revenue component.

INDUSTRIES

Leh is categorized as a zero industrial district of the State. The Government, in order to create industrial atmosphere in the district, is promoting suitable industrial infrastructure. The District Industries Centre, Leh was set up in 1978 to provide maximum possible facilities under one roof. The objective is to establish small scale industrial units, provide financial assistance, marketting and raw material facilities and technical guidance to the unit holders and create employment opportunities for the educated youth through self- employment programme.

An Industrial Training Institute was established in the district in 1982. The Institute imparts training in seven disciplines including stenography,motor mechanic,radio/TV,cutting/ tailoring, machine knitting, electrician/black smithy. Approved outlay for 1997-98 was Rs.30.76 lakhs.

DESERT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Desert Development Programme was introduced in the district in 1978-79 with a view to arrest desertification, maintaining ecological balance and creating conditions conducive for integrated development. Accordingly, various schemes of land development, soil and moisture conservation, water resource development, afforestation,fodder and pasture development are being executed under the programme. A remarkable breakthrough has been made by creating irrigation potential, bringing new areas under afforestation and increase of agricultural production including fodder.

The highlights of the programme in the last 18 years include reshaping, levelling, terracing and conservation of about 2400 hectares of moisture land, creation of irrigation potential for about 4000 hectares of land, construction of 658 bunds for protection of soil erosion, plantation of 49 lakh plants on 2036 hectares of land, production of about 15000 quintals of fodder in addition to 14.56 quintals of fodder seeds, establishment of 230 Green Houses and agriculture farms at Gupuk, Balam, Terchey, Tirith and Horticulture farms at Sumoor and Nimoo.

POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMME

Leh district, comprising 5 CD blocks with 38 panchayat halqas, is one of the most backward regions in the country, because of its difficult terrain coupled with harsh climate. The majority of the population lives below poverty line. Various Central and State sponsored programmes, aimed at poverty alleviation, are under implementation in the district which include:-

Employment Assurance Scheme: Under the scheme works are targetted to be taken up and works created and completed generating employment opportunities.

Jawahar Rozgar Yojana: The allocation for the yojana has been approved at Rs.17.93 lakhs as maching State share. As many as 230 works are targetted to be taken up for execution. Under the scheme, as many as 39000 mandays work were generated in the district. Different works,were taken in hand and completed including construction of school buildings, foot bridges and roads. The Central Government sanctioned, a scheme for construction of 3000 Green Houses in the district.

Rural Sanitation: The programme envisages various sanitation schemes including construction of household latrines, public/ school latrines, women sanitary complex, washing plateforms and bathrooms, thus generating employment opportunities.

Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP): The IRDP was initiated in Leh district in 1981-82. Since then, about 5500 beneficiaries were covered under the programme. The IRDP is aimed at upliftment of people living below poverty line.

SOCIAL WELFARE

The Social Welfare department is establishing a Nari Niketan at Leh town to provide social security to the destitute women and neglected/ orphan girl children, where 25 inmates are provided free board/lodge and schooling facilities. At the Ladies Vocational Centre 20 female candidates of 14-40 years' age group are imparted vocational training. The department runs a

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Bal Ashram with an intake capacity of 50 inmates. Students belonging to weaker and vulnerable sections of the society are provided pre-matric scholarships. Children belonging to economically weak parents are provided free books and uniforms. The approved outlay for 1997-98 was Rs.30.85 lakhs.

CO-OPERATIVES

There are 100 Co-operative societies of different types in the district with a total membership of 14068 and paid up share capital of Rs.35.04 lakhs. The co-operative public distribution system controls 50 % of consumer business of most of the essentials,100% of fertilizer distribution and 75% of marketting of agriculture produce in the district.

Rs.25.66 lakhs including Rs.4.76 lakhs as revenue component was proposed to be spent in 1997-98. The activities are aimed at improving working of cooperative consumer societies and cooperative credit societies.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

Leh is not only a rugged and difficult terrain but also the largest district in the country with distance from its eastern border in Demjok to its western end in Dah and Tongstet in north to Kharnak in south, as long as 500 kms each. The road construction in such an area is a himalayan task. Closure of passes during winter months and non-availability of key materials at the beginning of the working season further add to its difficulty.

Out of the total of 112 villages, 83 are connected with the motorable roads. The new schemes include link road to Kanji, extension of nallah Tuckchu road in Sakti, link road to Teri via Gia, work on motorable bridge at Kobed and bridge over river Zanskar at Chilling to connect Sku and Markha areas.

POWER

Leh district is power deficient. The district has a hydro electric project at Stakna generating 4 MWs of power and diesel generated electricity which does not suffice the requirement. The atmospheric conditions here are ideally suited for generation of solar energy. As per the plan for 100 per cent electrification of villages about 2400 households will have to be S.P.V. Units. In Nobra block where no other source of power is availalbe about 1000 solar units have already been installed. Approved outlay for 1997-98 was RS.76.85 lakhs.

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LADAKH AUTONOMOUS HILL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, LEH

Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh was constituted in accordance with the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council Act,1995. The Council came into being with the holding of elections on August 28,1995. The inaugural meeting of the Council was held at Leh on September 3,1995. The democratic constitution of the Council has heralded democratic decentralization of planning process with the involvement of people at the grass root level. Owing to the difficult geographical problems,the need for greater public participation in the planning and development process was all the more necessary.

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The DRDA agency started functioning in the year,1981-82 with the aim to alleviate poverty for the upliftment of the people living below the poverty line in the district by providing subsidy/loan and other incentives. Under IRDP 5409 benificiaries were covered under IRDP since,1981-82, the year of inception of IRDP in Leh district. During 1994-95 Rs.14.15 lakhs were spent by DRDA,Leh under district plan and about 280 benificiaries were benifited under primary,secondary and tertiary sectors during said period. During 1995-96 Rs.15.66 lakhs has been approved for DRDA implementation of income generating schemes in Nobra, Nyomo and Durbuk blocks and 124 benificiaries have been benifited/covered under primary secondary and tertiary sectors and these are proposed to be implemented in various blocks.

Fisheries

Ladakh region abounds with cold water, fisheries resources are high in the form of rivers, streams, lakes etc. These resources can be utilized for providing quality fish proteins to common people of this high altitude area, besides, local water resources offer suitable areas for 'sport fisheries'. For better exploitation of fisheries resource of this area, it is necessary to have a comprehensive development of the available resources and well planned management extension and development activities.

WILD LIFE PRESERVATION

Rs.9.00 lakh will be spent on preservation of unique wild life in the district. This will include revenue domponent of Rs.0.70 lakh. Activities include checking the poaching, keeping vigil on killing of the wild life and providing nourishment like salt in lean seasons to the wild life.

WHO'S WHO

Telephone Nos.
STD Code 01982

	Office	Residence
Chief Executive Councillor,	52212	
Executive Councillor,(Edu)	52109	
Executive Councillor,(Works)	522397	
Executive Councillor,(Agri)	522398	
Executive Councillor, (Health)	522396	
Chief Executive Officer/ Dy.Commissioner	52110	
S.S.P.	52200	
Distt.Sessions Judge	52277	
S.E.(PWD)	52040	
S.E. (PDD)	52368	
C.P.O.(DDA)	52093	
Asstt.Director Information	52124	

OTHER LEADERS

Ven Kushok Bakula, Ambassador to Mongolia

Ven. Lama Lobzang, Member Commission for S.C./S.T

Aga Syed Hussain, MP.

Rani Deskit Angmo, Ex-MP

Mr.Sonam Gyalson, Ex-MLA

Mr.Tsering Samphel, Ex-MLA

Mr.Sonam Wangchok, Pintoo Ex-Minister

Mr.Ahad ullah Azad, Ex-MLC

Mr.Sonam Wangyal, Ex-Minister

Mr.Skalzand Angdu, Ex-MLA

LEGISLATORS

Sh. Tsering Dorje, M.L.A. Leh Assembly Constituency

Sh. Tsetan Namgyal, M.L.A. Nobra Assembly Constituency

Ven. Togdan Rinpoche, M.L.C. Leh Constituency.

Community heads

Sh.Tsering Norboo, President Ladakh Buddhist Association, Leh.

Sheikh Mirza Hussain, President Anjumani-Imam-IA, Leh

Sh. Vinay Kumar, President, Hindu Mahasaba, Leh

Sh.Mohd Shafi Lassu, President, Moyinul-Islam,Leh.

Re.E.S.Gargyan Paderee, Christani community,Leh.

Mr.Rigzin Namgyal,Kalon Chairman Citizen Council,Leh

Mount Everest Hero

Sh.Sonam Wangyal

Sh.Sonam Paljor

Smt. Rigzin Angmo, Gold Medalist in Bangkok International Marathan for women.

Smt. Tseshu Loma, Sangeet Academy Award.

Sh.Tsering Mutup Hok., Ashok Chakra

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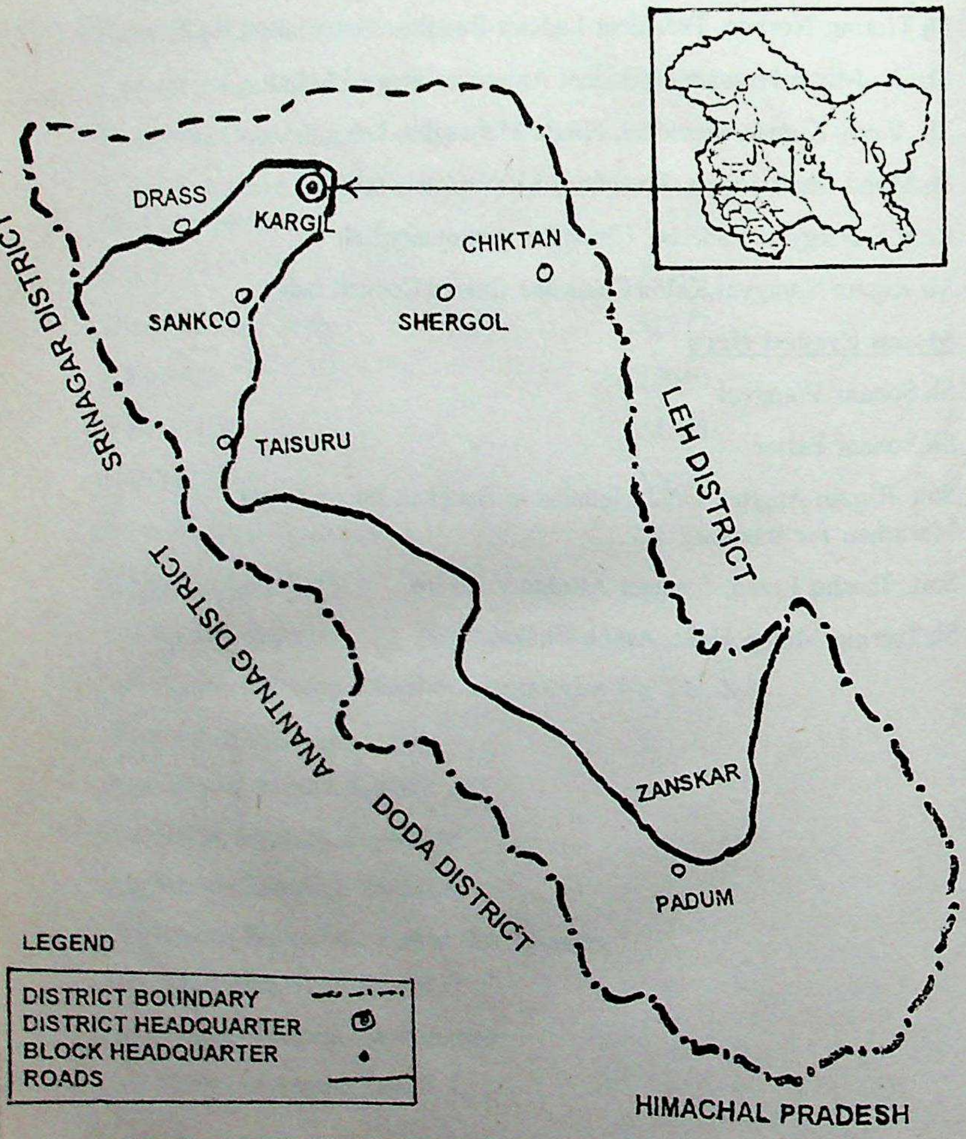
KARGIL DISTRICT


DRASS
KARGIL
CHIKTAN
SANKOO
SHERGOL
TAISURU
SRINAGAR DISTRICT
LEH DISTRICT
ANANTNAG DISTRICT
DODA DISTRICT
ZANSKAR
PADUM
HIMACHAL PRADESH
LEGEND
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
DISTRICT HEADQUARTER
BLOCK HEADQUARTER
ROADS

KARGIL A GLANCE

Geographical Area		14,036 sq. kms
Forest Area		6 sq. kms
Population	(1981 census)	65,990
	(1991 estimate)	81,000
Literacy percentage		19 (1981)
Tehsils		2
Blocks		7
Towns		1
Panchayats		65
Villages		129
Inhabited villages		127
Ed. Institutions		358
Villages electrified		79
Villages provided drinking water		126 & 385 hamlets
Principal crop/stapple food		Barley\Grim/wheat
Bank branches		11
Post Offices/Sub Post Offices		51
Live-stock population		
	a) Cattle	0.73 lakhs
	b) Sheep/Goats	3.24 lakhs
Roads	Surfaced	478 Kms.
	Un-surfaced	198 Kms.
Villages connected by roads		92
Telephone Exchanges		5
Telephone connections		410
Parliamentary Segment		Part of Ladakh Constituency
Assembly Segment		2

Electorate (1998)	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Kargil	26,285	27,353	53,638
Zanaskar	9392	9957	19,349

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Kargil district carved out of erstwhile district Ladakh came into existence in July 1979.It lies in the North-East of Kashmir Valley at a distance of 205 Kms. from Srinagar with a geographical area of 14,036 sq. kms.The whole area is of high rocky mountains which is devoid of any natural vegetation. The population of the district is above one lakh having density of 7 persons per sq. Km. against the average of 59 persons per sq. Km. at State level. 99% of population is schedule tribe. The district has high altitude area in the Country ranging from 8,000 fts to 18,000 fts. above sea level.

There are 7 rural development blocks comprising of 129 villages and 461 habitations as per 1981 Census which comprise a number of households settled near available irrigation facilities. District has two tehsils and one Sub-division at Zanskar. The district remains cut off from the rest of country from November to May in view of heavy snow fall on National Highway at Zojila pass. Civil Aviation department Government of India is constructing the advanced landing ground (Airport) at Kargil which is expected to be completed very soon.

District Kargil as a whole is a peaceful district. Militancy etc. in any way is not related with Kargil and the peace-loving people of this area have proved it. It may be added here that the State and Central assistance received for the development of this area have gone a long way in changing the developmental scenario in Kargil. A brief resume on implementation of Border Area Development Programme (BADP) is given in the following paragraph.

There are 3 border blocks in Kargil district viz Drass,Kargil and Shakarchiktan. Border Area development programme Ph-II (1994-95), Ph-III(1995-96)Ph-IV(1996-97)is under implementation.An amount of Rs.126.37 lakhs, Rs.139.23 lakhs, (including Rs.4.23 lakhs as supplimentary grant) and Rs.133.11 lakhs (including Rs.6.23 lakhs as supplimentary grant) are approved for various programmes under Ph-I,II & III respectively.In total Rs.398.71 lakhs have been made available for accelerating the pace of development in Border Blocks. Out of this an amount of Rs.208.24 lakhs has been utilized. With special assistance district administratrion has been in a postion to start construction on 24 Primary Schools, 7 Middle Schools, 2 Allopathic dispensaries, 4 MAC's, development of vegetables in 10 villages, providing/ upgrading of 13 link roads, construction of 2 community halls, providing of 272 Solar lights, two Ambulances and four colour T.V. sets with dish antenas.

In addition to these concrete/tangible developments, the special assistance has been utilized on purchase of drugs for health institutions, cultural activities/ sports, equipments for Sheep/ Animal and for rural sanitation programmes in border areas.

The district lies in the north-east of Kashmir Valley at an altitude ranging from 8,000 ft to 14,000 ft. above sea level. It has a geographical area of 14,036 sq. kms including rocky mountains which are devoid of natural vegetaion. The density of population is only 7 persons per sq.km. against the State average figure of 59 persons per sq. Km.

The decennial growth rate during 1971-81 had been worked out at 23.58 in the district as against 29.69 at the State level. The growth rate during 1981-91 had increased to 33.

Two tehsils of the district, Kargil and Zanaskar comprise seven blocks viz.Drass, Kargil,Sankoo, Tai-Suru, Zanskar, Shargol and Shakar-Chiktan with 129 villages including two un-inhabited ones, Haripore and Batokul and Drass block. The district has 65 Panchayat Halqas.

The district has a projected population of 91,670 souls in 1995-96 which stood at 65,990 as per 1981 census. People mostly live in rural areas and only 5.3 percent reside in the town. The majority of population is Muslim. The Budhists come next with their concentration in Zanskar tehsil and Shargol block. A few families of Sikhs and Hindus also live in the district.

The cultivated area in the district is 10,000 hectares as against 19,437 hectares of reporting area. The soil is generally coarse, mixed with stones and gravels. It is alkine in reaction and organic matter content is very low. The fertility of the soil varies from place to place and the growing season is short. The average rainfall in Kargil is 26 cms only.

The district gets snowfall varying from 2 ft to 5 ft. The Kargil town, Suru Valley and the villages around the Wakha and Kanji Nallah record a snowfall upto 3 ft while in Drass and some parts of Zanaskar it is 5 ft. Drass is the second coldest inhabited place in the world after Siberia in Russia.The areas of Karkitcho, Kargil town, Hardass to Saliskot and the villages from Silmo to Garkone get a double crop of barley, wheat, peas, bajrah and vegetables while other areas of the district get only single crop of wheat, barley, peas and some varieties of vegetables. The barley is the staple crop of the district.

The district presents a composite culture of Balti, Ladakhi, Purki, Dardi, Zanskari and Shina cultures. Irrespective of ethenic identities, all speak the Kargili language with ease.

HISTORY

The name Kargil came into prominence some time between 14th and 16th centuary A.D. The areas of present Kargil district including some parts of Baltistan, were called Purik in ancient history. The Purik Sultan, a renowned king setup his kingdom at Karpokhar in Suru Valley. He brought the sorrounding villages, including Zanskar, Pashkum and Sodh, under his domain and developed the areas in respect of culture, economy and military might. Gashoo Thatha Khan (a banished prince) also played a prominent role in expansion of his domain over Chiktan area in 9th century A.D. Later, he expanded his empire to Sodh area and is known to have been a powerful king of the area. Boti Khan, Abdal Khan, Amrodh Choo, Tsering Malik, Niathi Stan, Kunchok Sherab Stan and Thi Sultan have also made an imprint on the history of Kargil.

In the ancient times Purik was divided into many small kingdoms. the prominent among these being Suru Karchey, Sodh, Fokar and Chiktan. The history of Ladakh and Baltistan written by many historians like A.H.Frankey, Wazir Hashmatullah Khan and Kacho Sikandar Khan Sikandar, reveals that Kargil was divided into many little kingdoms which occassionally fought with each other on petty matters.

History also reveals that no king made Kargil town as capital. Therefore, there is no mention about Kargil in ancient history. There are conflicting views about the name of Kargil. Some say that the name is a combination of two words 'Khar' and 'rkil' meaning "the kingdom in between".

With the passage of time Kharkil changed into Kargil. Others believe that it is derived from Gar and Khil. 'Gar' means "coming from any place" and 'Khil' means "stop". The Kargil town is equidistant from Skardoo, Srinagar, Leh and Zanskar.

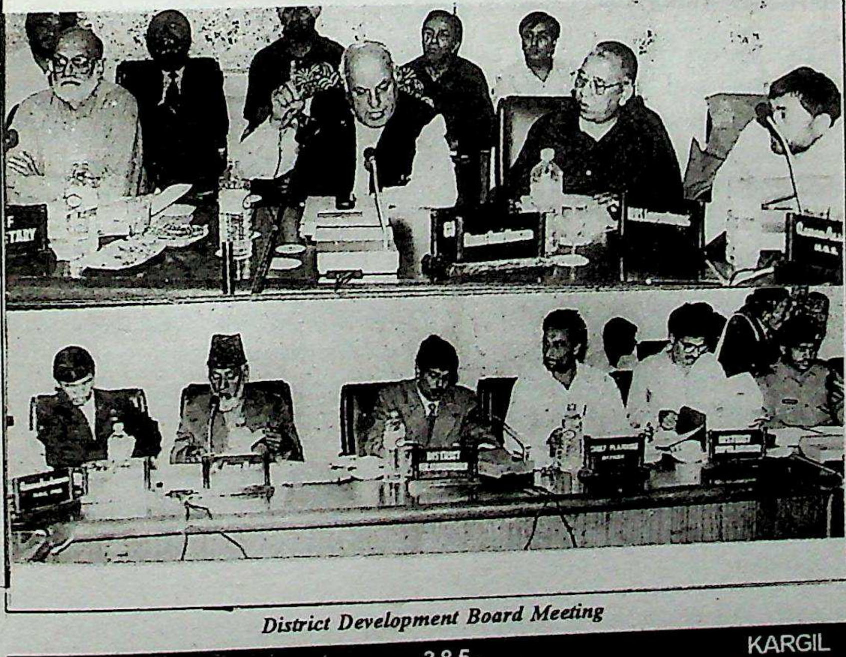
The Kargilies are descendants of Mangol, Dard and Mon races. It is believed that Pashkum is the first village inhabited in the area. Purik remained under the cultural domain of Tibat and the people of the area adopted the Budhist faith in the ancient time. During 14th century Islam came to Kargil.

Ali Sher Khan Anchan of Skardoo, a contemporary of Akbar, made good impact on the history of Purik. He invaded many small kingdoms of Purik, influencing the Purik culture with that of Balti. The palace of Chiktan, known as Chiktan Razi Khar, is famous in entire Purik and Ladakh. It is said that the architect of this palace was brought from Khapoloo in Baltistan and after the completion of the palace the king tried to chop his hands off but failed to do so due to a clever trick by the architect's wife.

General Zorawar Singh Commander of the Dogra army, invaded Ladakh in 1846 A.D. At that time Tsespal Namgyail was the king. General Zorawar Singh came to Suru Valley through Warwan Pass where he encountered Ladakhi forces at Langkarchey, 35 Kms from Kargil towards Sankoo, under the command of General Murup Namgyail. In a fierce battle, General Zorawar Singh defeated the Ladakhi forces and marched ahead towards Leh. He crushed the reinforcement under the command of General Banka Pa at Mulbakh. To sustain his troops, General Zorawar Singh constructed a fort in proper Kargil near the river. Kargil got prominence in the Dogra rule. The Dogras unified the kingdoms of Balistan, Purik, Zanaskar and Ladakh and the entire region became a part of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The region was divided into three divisions of Skardoo, Kargil and Leh.

DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

With a view to involve majority of population in the planning and implementation of various welfare schemes, the planning system has been decentralised to the grass roots level to incorporate local priorities. The decentralised planning, after the introduction of Single Line Administration,



District Development Board Meeting

has yielded tangible results in harmonious development of all the areas of the district.

There had been a 6 fold increase in plan allocation between 1981-82 and 1996-97 when the allocation reached to Rs.22.00 crcres. The proposed allocation for 1997-98 has been fixed at 27.00 crores.

For the rapid development of the district, the Central Government have declared 8 communities of Kargil and Leh districts as Scheduled Tribe. These tribes are: 1)Balti, 2)Beda, 3) Boto's Bot, 4) Brokpa, Drokpa,Dard, Shin, 5) Changpa, 6)Gara, 7) Mon and Purikpa. Except Changpa, all the seven tribes exist in Kargil and represent 99 per cent population of the district. It is hoped to improve the lot of the scheduled tribe in the district and bring them at par with other communities in matters of development. The Central Government is also pouring additional funds under Tribal Sub-Plan.

District Plan for 1997-98

Outlay	**Rs. 32.00 Crores**
Expenditure	**Rs. 31.54 Crores.**

AGRICULTURE

Kargil is less favourable for crop growing conditions with the result that the people and livestock face shortage of food, fodder and fuel due to severe cold climate. Despite this the agricultural activities have been under-taken over an area of 9,950 hectares. Proper land utilization, new production techniques and distribution of high yielding seed varieties have been accorded priority. The cultivation of cash crop like Zera, Potato, onion and fodder has received much impetus.

To ensure cultivation of vegetables during off-season winter months, when temperature dips to 25 degree c, poly green houses have been set up in the district. The successful performance of these poly-green houses have shown wide acceptance at the farming levels.

The district made significant headway in utilisation of waste lands for fodder/ vegetable production. Spotting of proper soil fertility gradient in the geo-distribution of the district has also been started through Soil Testing Laboratory.

Under this sector, farm mechanisation scheme and farm machinery like tractors are proposed to be purchased. The machinery will go a longway in increasing agricultural production in the district. An amount of Rs.58.50 lakhs was outlay under Agriculture sector during 1997-98 which included revenue component of Rs.24.50 lakhs

HORTICULTURE

Fruit cultivation is restricted to only 47 villages of the district. Apricot is the main fruit crop of the district. The best Apricot fruit (Halman) is grown in Karkit Chho, Hardass and Shilikchey. In Batalik area, other fruits such as grapes, walnut, almonds, cherry and peaches are also grown on a small area with negligible production. Around 4000 quintals of dried apricot valuing more than Rs.2 crore are produced annually. The number of fruit trees in the district is about 2 lakhs, covering an area of 700 hectares. There are 6 departmental fruit nurseries in the district over an area of 12 hectares with about 70000 fruit plants and the sapplings are distributed to fruit growers.

An amount of Rs.70.00 lakhs had been earmarked for 1997-98 under this sector. Besides ongoing schemes, liquid nitrogen plant shall be made functional for which accommodation is proposed to be constructed.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Local people of Kargil resort to rearing of live stock for centuries. Yak, cow, horse, donkey, sheep and goat are commonly found live-stock who are fed by a specific variety of fodder and grass grown quickly and is nutritive valued in the district.

The district with a sizeable population of different species have facility of 4 veterinary hospitals and 68 live stock development centres, besides farms for yak, cattle and poultry.

The Animal Husbandry department has established a Cattle Breeding Farm at Khurbathang with the help of Desert Development Agency. The main objective of the Farm is to function as a source of locally produced bulls for distribution to different live-stock Development Centres in the district. To boost poultry it has been proposed to establish a hatchery at Kargil.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY

Live-stock rearing being an important occupation of the people of the district, the Sheep Husbandry Department has initiated programmes to improve the productivity of the live-stock by way of bringing the entire local indigenous sheep population under the ambit of modern sheep development programme. It is also putting in efforts to increase the quantity and quality of wool and meat production in the district by upgrading local sheep and goats through cross breeding with rams of Karakul, Marino and Bucks of Angora and Alphine.

As many as 53 Sheep Extension Centres, one Karakul Sheep Breeding Farm at Khumbathang, one Mario sheep Farm at Drass and one Angoora Sheep Farm at Pashkum are functioning in the district.

About one lakh kg of wool are produced in private sector where as the mutton production is of the order of 4.65 lakh kgs annually.

Under Tribal Sub-Plan, 111 units of goats have been established. Of this,50 units are of Pashmina goats. Under this scheme 5 Ewes/ Does are provided to each beneficiary on 50 per cent subsidy.

Kargil is the only district in the country with a Karakul Sheep Farm. Karakul pelt is famous for making caps. The farm is located 25 kms from Kargil at Khumbathang in Suru Valley. The Farm is stretched over an area of 500 acres and has about 700 Karakul sheep. To convert the local Sheep into Karakul, Government has introduced a scheme whereunder Karakul rams are distributed to local beneficiaries for producing cross breed Karakul.

EDUCATION

A net-work of 358 educational institutions function in the district. These include 263 Primary Schools, 47 Middle Schools, 12 Senior Basic Schools, one lower High School, 32 High Schools and 3 Higher Secondary Schools, besides 22 private educational institutions.

In order to give boost to educational activities and meet a long pending demand of the people in the district,a Degree College has been opened there.

With a very low percentage of literacy in the district, the Government are putting in sustained efforts through various plan schemes envisaging hundred percent coverage in elementary education by enrolling and retaining girl students specially in schools as the district is the first in the State to introduce girl attendence scholarships in a bid to increase roll of girl students under which every girl student attending school gets scholarship.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Hundreds of old schemes have been completed and work on hundreds more are in progress which is expected to give a face lift to the district as a whole.

IRRIGATION

The 8th Five Year Plan targetted 48 irrigation schemes to be taken in hand at an estimated cost of Rs.2.84 crores with a potential to irrigate 2058 hectares of land. Against this, Rs.2.44 crores were spent in the first four years of the 8th Plan. During the 8th Plan period 3000 hectares were targetted to be brought under irrigation.

Umbolong and Zangla canals are targetted to irrigate a potential area of 40 and 1400 hectares, respectively. Besides, work on construction of Kaksar canal (phase 2nd) and improvement of Khurbathang canal is in progress.

Completion of Khurbathang canal has ushered Kargil district in a new era creating an irrigation potential for 880 hectares benefitting 10,000 souls of the adjacent villages.

For 1997-98 an amount of Rs.100 lakhs had been provided under this head.

FLOOD CONTROL/ ANTI SOIL EROSION MEASURES

Three main rivers Suru,Zanskar and Drass and two nallas Wakha and Kanji, which flow in the district cause erosion in agricultural lands.During the 8th Five year Plan, 27 schemes with a scope of protecting 2184 hectares of land were taken in hand at an estimated cost of Rs. 2 crores. During the first 4 years of the 8th plan, over Rs.1.62 crores were spent. A Master Plan at a cost of Rs.199.54 lakhs had been proposed to protect the land along these rivers, and nallas. The proposed allocation for flood control sector for 1997-98 was Rs. 100.00 lakhs.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

Out of 127 villages in the district, 97 have been connected so-far with linkroads. In the 8th Five Year Plan, 201 schemes were targetted to be achieved at an estimated cost of Rs. 29.81 crores. During the first four years of the plan, Rs.19.00 crores were spent on this sector. More than 60 schemes have been completed during the first four years of the 8th plan.

At present, work is apace on construction of bridges. Three major bridges at Sanjak, Thasgam and Kargil have been completed and thrown open for public. Among these, Sanjak is the most important bridge, which has been constructed at a cost of Rs.96.25 lakhs. The 50 meters span steel girder bridge provided an alternative road between Leh and Kargil. With the completion of the bridge the traffic load on the National Highway at Fotula and Lamayuru has be lessened. The completion of Thasgam bridge at Sankoo has benefitted the people of Phoolongma and Thasgam with a population of 7000 souls. The bridge with a span of 72 meters was constructed at a cost of Rs.75 lakhs.

The Qatl Gah bridge located in the heart of the town will lessen the traffic load in the town to a great extent besides beautifying the skyline in the town. The Karsha bridge involving a cost of Rs.65 lakhs, is the biggest bridge in Zanaskar sub-division constructed over Zanaskar River near Karshah. The bridge would link Karsha and Techa Khasar with Padam, the Sub-Divisional headquarter.

Allocation for 1997-98 in this sector was Rs.538 lakhs.

HOUSING

During the 8th Five Year Plan, Rs. 1.25 crores have been proposed for construction of residential accommodation for Government employees. An amount of Rs. 92.44 lakh has been spent during the first four years of the plan.

In order to accommodate the passangers of far-off places, a Sarai has been constructed at Baroo at a cost of Rs. 7 lakh. To provide accommodation facilities to Kargilies who visit Jammu, mostly in winter for medical treatment and other activities, a Kargil House at Jammu was been constructed at a cost of Rs.40 lakhs. For 1997-98 an allocation of Rs. 50.00 lakh had beeen proposed for Housing sector.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT

This scheme comprises way-side development construction of Rest Houses, parks, restaurants, shelter sheds etc. As many as 28 works were proposed in the sector during the 8th Five Year Plan at an estimated cost of Rs. 6.54 crores. Of this, an amount of Rs. 1.22 crore was spent during the first four years of the plan. For linking of Balti Bazar with Adul Gound, a link road is being constructed at an estimated cost of Rs. 19.77 lakhs. An amount of

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Rs. 40.00 lakhs had been kept to maintain Public Park, Kargil during 1997-98.

NON-FUNCTIONAL BUILDINGS

During the 8th Five Year Plan period, 23 schemes have been targetted to be completed. In the four years of the Plan, 18 schemes were completed. The schemes included construction of Community Hall, Niabat Office, Circuit House and Rest Houses etc. An amount of Rs. 3 lakhs was spent on the construction of additional V.I.P. rooms in the Circuit House, Kargil.

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING

Out of the 127 villages and 527 Modas of the district, 110 villages and 209 Modas stand provided with potable drinking water facilities sofar benefitting 62000 souls.

In order to improve the water supply scheme in Kargil town, a Master Plan has been chalked out at a cost of Rs.4.87 crores. Of this, Rs. 235 lakhs have been spent on this scheme so far. For a better drainage system in Kargil town, a project at a cost of Rs.38 lakhs is under execution.

With the increase in population and improvement in the living standards, need has been felt for an organised sewerage disposal system in Kargil town. An amount of Rs. 1.78 lakhs has been proposed during the 8th Five Year Plan. Besides this, proposed annual allocation in the Public Health Engineering Sector was Rs.100.30 lakhs for 1997-98. In addition allocation of Rs.110.70 lakhs had been provided in this sector.

POWER

Kargil district is lagging in hydel power generation. Consequently, local population is mostly dependent on the conventional sources of energy. Fire wood is also in short supply in this high altitude and arid region. Presently, there are 17 diesel generating stations with an aggregate installed capacity of 3.12 MWs in the district which provide 4 to 5 hours supply of electricity daily to the local population. This is hardly sufficient to meet the growing energy needs of the people. To meet the requirements of the people, Iqbal Mini Hydel Project was commissioned in the district in October 1995. The Rs.34 crore project has a generating capacity of 3.75 MWs. The project has ushered Kargil in a new era of development.

Work on three more mini hydel projects is in progress. These are one- MW

Haftal Project in Zanaskar Sub-Division, 600- KW Marpo Choo Project in Drass and 800 KW Sanjak Project. An amount of Rs.4 crores has been spent sofar on the Haftal Project and is expected to generate power in near future, involving expenditure of Rs.8 crores. Marpo Choo Mini Hydel Project and Mini Hydel Project Sanjak are expected to be completed soon.

Exploiting water of Suru river for power generation has been under consideration for many years. The proposed projects include 12 MW Chotuk Project and 60 MW Parkachik Hydel Project. The schemes were identified and formulated by Central Water Commission after investigations carried out by its Ladakh Investigation Division. Project report for both the schemes have been prepared and are being upgraded. The Power Development Corporation has recently decided to take up Chutuk Project in the State sector. There is potential for 2 to 3 more projects on the River Suru like Mangdum, Sangra, Karpokhar and Brako-Thuina which are also being investigated. The proposed annual allocation for the Power sector for 1997-98 was Rs.40.00 lakhs.

TOURISM

Kargil was thrown open to foreign tourists in 1974. Since then tourism has become a well established part of the local economy and an important sector of the developmental process of the district. It has opened new avenues of investment and profit for the local population. The district receives an average annual tourist traffic of 12,000 foreign and about 5,000 home tourists in normal circumstances.

The Tourism Department is endeavouring to develop tourism facilities in the district. Emphasis is being laid on the development of basic infrastructure at important places so that miximum tourists are attracted. Besides the existing accommodation facilities in Tourist Dak Bangalow, Drass, Tourist Dak Bangalow, Kargil-I and Kargil-II, a few new Dak Bangalows have been constructed at different places.

For promotion of tourist industry in Suru Valley which has scenic beauty and trekking potential, an alpine style Tourist Hut at a cost of Rs.7.65 lakhs has been completed at Rangdum and Tangde which will provide adequate accommodation for trekking and mountaineering groups visiting Penzella area and Nun-Kun peaks.

There are about 40 hotels of various classes in the district with a total bed strength of more than 900.

An allocation of Rs.120 lakhs has been earmarked for the Tourism sector in the district during the 8th Five Year Plan. Of this, Rs.67.52 lakhs have been proposed for the capital component for construction and improvement of various Tourist Dak Bangalows.The annual allocation for 1997-98 had been approved at Rs.25.00 lakhs.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Kargil being a hilly district, the villages and hamlets are situated at considerable distances in difficult terrain. Thus the Rural Development Department here has a tough job in the development of the rural areas in terms of construction of bridges, footpaths and Khuls for small irrigation and sanitation works.

Various programmes introduced by the State and Central Governments for the development of rural areas are being implemented in Kargil vigorously.

Under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, 39 works like construction of foot bridges, protection bunds, culverts, school buildings, tanks and passenger sheds were taken in hand. About Rs.29.74 lakhs are being spent on construction of these schemes, of which Rs.23.79 lakhs is Central share.

In order to construct houses for the houseless families,74 schemes have been taken in hand under Indira Awas Yojana. Likewise, under Million Wells Scheme, Rs.9.19 lakhs are being spent on the construction of 40 tanks in the district. As many as 3000 Poly-green houses are being constructed in the district under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana.

Out of about 9800 families living below poverty line in the district, about 500 families were assisted through Bank loans/subsidy to establish income generating units under Integrated Rural Development Programme besides some other small retail trade units in 7 blocks of the district.

More than 230 candidates have been trained in trades like knitting, tailoring and embroidery at TRYSEM centres, besides, sponsoring some of them for advanced training in motor mechanic/electronics in Jammu.

Under DWCRA Programme, 40 women groups are being established in various blocks of the district. Under the programme Rs. 15000/- are given as grant-in-aid to women groups of 10-15 members for establishing their own units.

HEALTH

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In the Health sector there is one District Hospital, one T.B.Hospital, one

Sub-District Hospital, 6 Public Health Centres, 11 Allopathic Dispensaries, 76 M.A.C. and one Leprosy Unit functioning in the district.

An amount of Rs.225.00 lakhs had been earmarked in 1997-98 annual plan under Health sector. Among other ongoing schemes under implementation it is proposed to start construction on the new District Hospital at Kargil and providing 100 bed hospital at Khurbathang Kargil costing more than Rs.2.00 crores.

SOCIAL WELFARE

The Social Welfare department is engaged in improving the living standard of the weaker sections of the society in the district. In order to attract more and more children of poor and weaker sections to schools, pre-matric scholarship benefitting about 1000 students have been provided.Free books, stationery and uniforms are given to the children of the poor people, besides physically handicapped and crippled students were also aided substantially. Prosthetic aid to handicapped children and sewing machines are also given to poor, destitute and handicapped women and widows.

Various Central schemes for uplift of poor people like National Old Age Pension Scheme, National Family Benefit Scheme and National Maternity Schemes are being implemented vigorously in the district. The proposed annual allocation in the Social Welfare sector for 1997-98 was Rs.15.00 lakhs.

INDUSTRIES

Since the re-organisation of Industries Department in 1979, the Industrial sector in Kargil received greater impetus. At present, more than 440 Small Scale Units are formally registered in the district, generating employment to 1000 persons.

With the generation of power from Iqbal Hydel Project which is the first Hydel Project in the district, a greater scope has emerged for the industrial sector in the district. To promote various industrial activities an Industrial Complex has come up at Khurbathang. As many as 91 registered small scale units have so far been allocated land in the complex to start their own ventures.

HANDLOOM

The district has a good scope for handloom industry as the maximum population, being agriculturist, remain idle for about six months in winter. According to a survey conducted in 1993-94, there are 445 traditional Patto weavers in the district. The estimated annual raw wool production in the district is 1.50 lakh kgs. In a bid to encourage setting-up of handloom units, schemes are being formulated under Tribal Sub Plan.

The Handloom department has been imparting training mostly to women, in shawls making and Pashmina wool processing.The annual allocation for the Handloom sector was proposed to be Rs.14.20 lakhs for 1997-98.

HANDICRAFTS

The Department of Handicrafts is running 12 training centres in various crafts like carpet weaving, Gabba making, embroidery, hoisery, carpentry and Papoo (Local shoe) making. More than 400 persons were trained in these centres sofar. Ladakhi type carpets of 3'x6' size has a good potential in the district. Efforts are afoot to improve the production of carpets by importing high quality yarn and imparting training to the desirous people. Since the declaration of Kargil as Scheduled Tribe, the Tribal Sub-Plan gives maximum attention to incentives and better training to the beneficiaries. The annual allocation for Handicrafts sector was Rs.8.41 lakhs for 1997-98.

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

Kargil-Srinagar National Highway is the only supply line to the district from rest of the State, which passes through Zojila. This National Highway remains cut-off for all kinds of traffic for a period of about six months due to heavy snow fall at Zozila. Thus the Food and Supplies department has to stock sufficient food grains well in time to meet the needs of the consumers during winter months.

The department has established 102 sale centres across the district for distribution of the essential commodities under revamped public distribution system. For sufficient stocking of the commodities, more godowns are being constructed in the district, financed by the Central Government. These will be located at Padum, Zanaskar, Drass, Chiktan,Lotsum and Sankoo etc.

DESERT DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The Desert Development programme was introduced in Kargil in the year

1980-81 to remove desertification in the area. Land development, soil conservation and pasture development and plantation at a large scale was undertaken under the programme.

More than 4000 hectares of land were brought under irrigation from the inception of the scheme to 1994-95 by constructing more than 160 Khuls/ canals and tanks. Besides, 1844 hectares of land were developed by way of reshaping, terracing and levelling.

Under the scheme, as many as 60 lakh plants were planted in the district and about 1020 hectares of land were brought under plantation by way of constructing fencing and walling. The plantation include willow, poplar, hyphophia, shrubs etc.

With the introduction of a new concept called water shed development in 1995-96, the programme of Desert Development has been undertaken by the Watershed Development Programme. Under this programme the project implementing agencies and non-governmental organisations supplement the Government department. During 1995-96, five non-governmental organisations have been selected, of which four have started working. An amount of Rs.1.12 crore was released to the Project implementing agencies for community organisation trainings, administrative over-heads and entry point activities.

FOREST

Despite difficult conditions of arid landscape, the Forest Department has succeeded in converting a big chunk of area in Drass and Zanaskar into plantation patches. Drass, the second coldest inhabited place in the world, has developed forest nurseries and plots.

As many as 2.00 lakh plants were planted under District Normal Plan.Social Forestry Programme which was introduced in Kargil during 1995-96 has undertaken various plantation schemes. Besides, the Forest department has planted 8.00 lakh plants, covering 200 hectares of land, under Desert Development Scheme providing an incentive of Rs.30 lakhs to the local population.

Fast growing trees like Keeker, Rubinia, Psodocacia are being planted in the district. The department has brought new variety of fast growing willow seeds from Reserach Nursery Jammu. The district has also some medicinal plants like Heoruculem (Spishoo), Ephedra (Tsephad), Artensia (Nak-Sbur), Physiculine (Lantang), Podophylum (Dairmo Kooshu).

WILD LIFE PRESERVATION

Kargil is known for rare animals like snow leopard, ibex, Goat,Brown Bear,.and large number of migratory birds visit this district. Being border district with very apprehension of Smuggling of Wild Life animals and their parts. Government has established a new scheme in the district. Rs.10,00 lakhs will be spent for construction of office complex and purchase of vehicle for Divisional Forest Officer Wild Life and revenue part shall be of the order of Rs.12,00 lakhs.

The district has some rare species of wild life like Ibex, Deer, Muskdeer, Black Bear, Brown Bear, Snow leopard, Shapoo and Marmot. According to a survey conducted in 1980, the district has an ibex population of 10000 besides 100 snow leapards. The Ibex are mostly found in Wakha Nallah, Rangdum Nallah, Pholongma and in Zanaskar area. To protect this rare specie, game-huts are being constructed in various nallah and informers are being recruited to check poaching.

COOPERATIVE

An amount of Rs.40.00 lakhs was earmarked in annual plan 1997-98 for this sector. Revival of Consumers Marketting Society has been proposed, in addition to other ongoing schemes. Besides, Super Bazar building at Kargil is proposed to be constructed soon. Further, subsidy is proposed to be given to ensure uniformity in retail prices of fertilizers in remote areas of the district.

HANDICRAFTS

Under the Handicrafts sector industrial cooperatives are being introduced to overcome the problem of glut in the production and ensure sale of Handicraft products. An amount of Rs.12.00 lakhs was proposed under Handicraft sector during 1997-98.

FISHERIES:

Under Fisheries sector an amount of Rs.7.00 lakhs stood approved in annual plan 1997-98. Fish farm at Khachan shall be constructed and other ongoing schemes shall continue. Fish Farm at Wakha stands completed. The department also proposes to construct a fish pond at the Sacied lake at Sani in Zanaskar were fish are availabe in abundance.

CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES

An amount of RS.170.00 lakhs had been earmarked in annual plan 1997-98 for the implementation of IRDP, JRY, EAS and Rural Sanitation Programmes. This entire amount formed the state share for the achievements fixed targets under the said Centrally Sponsored Schemes during 1997-98.

CULTURAL GLIMPSES

The district Kargil is a vast and diverse spectrum of tribal culture which is colourful and enchanting. Zanaksar, Drass, Kargil, Wakha, Mulbakh, Chiktan, Darchiks Garkone, Kushow, Kharboo are some of the important cultural glimpses of the district. Various Government agencies like the J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, Department of Information and Department of Tourism organise cultural programmes which attract large crowds, prominently the foreign tourists, who are fascinated with the cultural richness of the area.

SHINA DANCE

The Dards of Drass have a distinct culture of their own. Shina dance and Dani Talwar dance, performed amid recitation of Shina songs, are famous cultural activity of Drass. The young as well as the old people take part in these activities. Various cultural clubs have been formed in Drass which are engaged in the development of these folk dances.

BALTI GHAZAL

The Balti ghazal is a popular poetic form sung by folk singers at festivals and in music programmes on Radio Kashmir, Leh. The younger generation is particularly thrilled by the compositions of these ghazels and many young Balti poets have come up who are contributing to the richness of the Balti poetry.

BROKPA DANCE

It is a dance form of the people of Batalik area performed in traditional costume. These people are believed to be the descendants of the Aryans. It is said when Alexander invaded India, some of his soldiers were waywarded into the Batalik Valley and eventually settled there. Consequently, a new race of indigenous Aryans was born.

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NEYOPA DANCE

Neyopa dance is an important cultural activity of the people in Wakha Mulbakh, 40 Kms from Kargil town on Kargil-Leh road. The people are very fond of festivities and organise Neyopa dance on village festivals and marriage ceremonies. The significance of this dance is that only menfolk clad with zebra skin costume and long black headgear, take part in it. Seven to nine people perform the dance.

SEETHOT DANCE

The dance is performed on Losar and marriage ceremonies in Bodh Kharboo. On Losar, a seven day cultural programme is held in the area where, besides the dance, folk songs are also sung by artists in colourful costumes.

FOKAR FOLK DANCE

Fokar is a famous Nallah in Shargole block and Fokar Dzong was a hermitage place of Padma Sambhava. An annual religious function is held at Dzong. Both men and women participate in the dance performed in two rows, amid singing of folk songs of love and matrimony. Unlike in Leh, the female dancers wear turquise studded half length headgear and do not use the black lamb skin flaps near their ears.

MENDOK LTANMO

This is a famous thanks-giving dance of Kokshow performed by bachelors and virgins on the eve of summer after a long cold winter. The participants carry flowers on a stick which they offer to Gods as a mark of joy on the advent of summer which releases them of the vagaries of cold.

ROYANG LHU

The people in the Shakar Chiktan block of the Kargil district have a penchant for folk songs. Rgyang Lhu is their famous cultural activity where they sing folk songs and folk-lore. Folk song recitation competitions are also held in the area.

GOMPA FESTIVALS

Zanskar is the land of Gompas. The five main Gompas of the area include Karsha, Stongdy, Stakrimo, Zunghul, Sari and Fuktal. Annual festivals are held in these Gompas. The lama dance and the display of thankas and murals are some of the features of these festivals. A large number of people throng these Gompas on such occasions to witness the festivities. Zanskar folk dances, known as Alley Yato, and song competitions are important components of rich culture of Zanaskar.

KARGIL FESTIVAL

To attract more and more tourists to Kargil, the Kargil Tourist Festival was held for the first time in 1996. Thousands of local people and foreign tourists witnessed the festival that proved a great success. During the festival, cultural programmes performed by artists from Drass, Darchik-Garkoon, Kargil, Fokar, Wakha, Mulbakh, Bodh Kharboo and Chiktan and Polo, archery and river rafting competitions were held. More than 300 artists from the district participated in various cultural programmes. The Tourism Department is planning to organise more such programmes in the district.

SPORTS

The Kargil district is the home of some ancient sports which have been equally popular in the modern times. Archery and polo are not merely sports activities in the district but also an integral part of the social and cultural life of the people.

ARCHERY

Archery competitions are held at different places in the district with much fanfare and enthusiasm. The competitions also provide entertainment to people. The competitions start with the melting of snow after a prolong winter and continue till the ploughing season. The sport is an ancient activity in the area which has got a religious touch also. During the competitions local artists are invited to recite Qaseedas and Naats. The District Youth and Sports Department also organises archery competitions at the district and block headquarters.

POLO

The polo having originated in Baltistan, travelled to Ladakh region in the 8th century A.D. The sport received royal patronage and polo matches were organised on important occasions. Like archery, polo matches have entertainment value besides being a sports activity. In olden days polo matches were a part of the social life of every village. Every big village had a pologround, locally known as 'Shagharan'. The Shagharan's of Baroo,

CC-0 Ag

Hamburtik Barsoo, Biambas, Goshan, Chokiyal, Wakha, Fokar and Chiktan were famous. With the passage of time, polo has lost much of its popularity. However, the sport is still popular in Drass, Sapi, Fokar and Bodh-Kharboo. The polo club at Drass has 12 polo teams while the total number of teams in the district is 17 including 2 each in Sapi and Fokar and 3 in Bodh-Kharboo.

KARGIL TOWN

WHO'S WHO

	Jammu ☎		Srinagar ☎	
	Office	**Resi.**	**Office**	**Resi.**
GOVERNOR				
Mr.G.C.Saxena	544989 544939	544989 544939	452208 455320 455321	455321 455320
CHIEF MINISTER				
Dr.Farooq Abdullah	546466 546766	544285 545888	452224 452228	452514 452540
Ministers				
Mr.Gh.Mohi-ud-Din Shah, Roads & Buildings.	549683	549692	479832	472536
Mr.P.L.Handoo, Law & Parliamentary Affairs	546015	548356	479049	476473
Mr. Mohammad Shafi, Finance	544636	544459	479115	473344
Mr.Abdul Rahim Rather, Rural Development & Co-operatives	546159	544854	475771	452172
Mr.Bashir Ahmed Kitchloo, Transport	544292	542259	479427	452151
Mr.Bodh Raj Bali, Industries and Commerce	549682	430802	479153	478029
Dr. Mustafa Kamal, Medical Education	547944	549690	452276	452184
Ch. Mohammad Ramzan, Forests	549681	549693	479006	475647 450073
Mr. Ajatshatru Singh, Information, Science & Technology Youth Services & Sports.	549677	543303	479124	476472
Mr.Abdul Qayoom, Higher Education	549680	549686	468905	431625
Molvi Iftikhar Hussain Ansari, Housing & Urban Development	549679	435568	479135	479655
Mr.Ali Mohammad Sagar, Irrigation, PHE & Flood Control	549678	549689	479038	455400
Mr. S. S. Salathia, Sheep & Animal Husbandry	549670	462293	479475	478289
Mian Altaf Ahmed, Social Welfare	549676	546437	479186	478762

Mr.Ali Mohammad Naik, Revenue	546317	544947	479132	434383
Peerzada Gh.Ahmed Shah, Parks ,Gardens, Haj & Auqaf	–	–	479935	473632
Mr. Mohammad Sharief Tariq, School Education	549671	455102	479084	478028
Mr. Nissar Ahmed Khan, Agriculture, Horticulture & Sericulture	549672	554677	479005	434379

Ministers of State

Mr.Govind Ram, Health & Family Welfare	549668	554684	479085	478075
Mr.Ajay Sadhotra, Food & Civil Supplies	547966	453094	455216	434380
Mr. B. A. Nengroo, Transport	549674	549691	479120	452994
Mr. Togdan Rin Po Che, Planning & Ladakh Affairs	544282	554685	452188	478065
Aga Syed Mehmood, Industries & Commerce	549675	554668	479480	452993
Mr. Safder Ali Beig, Revenue	549673	554672	479067	434378
Mr. Qamar Ali Akhoon, R & B	549667	456458	479433	434381
Syed Abdul Rashid, Power	–	–	479008	477502 (pp)
Mr. Mushtaq Ahmed Lone, Home	–	–	455123	433477
Miss Sakina Itoo, Social Welfare	549664	546468	479478	476471
Mr. Tsetan Namgyal Tourism	549665	554687	479418	431481

LEGISLATURE

Chairman , Legislative Council,	542031	435588	472402	474114
Mr. H.S.Bali Dy. Chairman, Legislative Council	541820	431664	474088	474114
Speaker Legislative Assembly	546531	544947	478927	452249
Malik Ghulam Hyder Dy. Speaker, Leg. Assembly	545065	554045	478991	433070

ADMINISTRATION - SECRETARIAT

Mr. Ashok Jaitly Chief Secretary	546773 544338	546319 542934	455353 452257	452703 452252
	Fax-546188		Fax-452356	
Mr. I. S. Malhi, Fin.Commr, Agri. & Rural Dev.	544496	554202	452199	471886
Mr. H.H. Tyabji Fin.Commr., Chairman, Public Service Commission	546087	546532 455089	479419	473250

Additional Chief Secretaries

Mr J.A. Khan Planning & Development	546087 542903	542033	452240 472921	471922
Mr S. D. Singh, Transport.	--	--	456991	--
Mr. M.S. Pandit, Industries & Commerce	544050	435050	452265	452161
Ms. Sushma Chowdhary Revenue	544215 546193	542862	473965	452119
Mr. Vijay Bakaya Forests	546793	430302	452238	452729
Mr. Ajit Kumar Finance	546715 545286	430902	452559	452161
Mr. S.L Sailova PDD	546206	430801	452236	479284
Mr. B.R Singh Principal Secy. to CM	544017	433769 435166	479180 477243	479122 452118

Commissioners / Secretaries

Mr. G.D.Wadhwa Health and Family Welfare	--	--	--	--
Mr. C. Phonsog Home	546292 544738	--	462199	455331
Mr. B.R.Kundal Medical Education	546334	430101	452262	452179
Mr. S.S.Kapoor Higher Education	542880	431201	--	472176

Mr.Parvez Dewan Tourism	542922	546644	452264	452037
Mr.K.A.Ganai Rural Development	--	--	--	--
Mr. B.L.Nimesh R & B	--	--	452237	--
Mr. Pankaj Jain Housing & Urban Dev.	--	--	452263	--
Mr.S.R.S.Madni Irrigation & Flood Control	--	--	470358	475264
Ms Vijay Kotwal Information and Sc.& Tech	544735	452912	452031	452634
Mr. M.A.Ganai Revenue	544543	435128	452268	430330
Mr.P.L.Raina School Education	--	--	--	--
Mr. R.K.Jerath Food and Supplies	546185	433752	452261	477643
Mr.A.K.Angurana Social Welfare	542759	431748	452271	452256
Mr. A.R.Parray GAD	546765 545080	435522	452239	472176
Mr. K.B.Agarwal Labour and Employment	544735	542590	--	--
Mr.Khursheed Ahmed Bhat Secy.Law & Parliamentary Affairs	546753	435517	452267	430621

Heads of Department

Mr. M. L. Koul, D.G. IMPA	432836	431341	452240	452023
Mr. S.S.Ali D.G., Youth Services & Sports	544089	431329	452085	--
Mohammad Ashraf, D.G. Tourism.	544527	452961	472449	432540
Mr A.K. Suri, Transport Commissioner	431603	430746	455048	--
Mr.M.I.Khandey Commissioner.Sales Tax	547076	432379	--	--
Mr.S.V.Bhave, Chief Electoral Officer	544982	431618	473609	471922
Mr. Najam-us-Saqib Excise Commissioner	431345	431211	--	--

Mr.R.K.Goyal				
Director, Education Jammu	592791	434711	–	–
Mr.S.A.Masudi				
Settlement Commissioner	–	–	–	–
Mr. K.B.Jandial				
Dir. of Information	544076	435157	452437	452175
	Fax-544643	–	452294	–
			Fax-452227	–
Mr Khalid Habib,	–	–	–	–
Director Estates	544698	452621	455001	432054
Mr.A.R.Mubarki				
Labour Commissioner.	547526	463539	472524	432707
Mr.M.C.Verma,				
Dir. Sty. & Supplies	530402	546035	–	–
Pr. CC (Forests)	547276	554283	455027	452511
Director Garages	546697	546260	452419	430138
Dir. Ind. & Commr.	544471	530370	–	–
Dir. Handicrafts	547224	579088	477210	–

Public Undertakings/Autonomous Bodies

Mr. H.H.Tyabji, IAS				
Chairperson, PSC	542906	433982	455089	–
Mr. V. Aivalli IPS,				
Chairman BPE	546284	431202	–	–
Mr. M.Y.Khan,				
Chairman J&K Bank	542021	431898	430695	472027
	452143			
Prof. Satish Raina,				
Chairman SSRB	542072	–	479640	878202
Mr. Amit Kushari				
Chairman, J&K Spl. Tribunal	542905	430803	–	–
Chairman Comp. Authority	542145	535166	–	–
Mr. M. Salim Beig				
M.D. SIDCO	-	-	430036	478193
Mr.Abdul Ahad Bhat				
M.D. JK Minerals Ltd.	-	-	455096	432104

Divisional Administration

Div.Commissioner	544045	546886	455357	452581
Dy.Commissioner	546223	543383	452182	452223
Chief Engineer, Irrigation	542164	530359	455029	-

Chief Engineer, PDD	554426	555393	452001	431186
Chief Engineer, PHE	544356	530009	478551	475264
Chief Engineer, R&B	535002	532570	455017	432014
Chief Engineer, Ravi Tawi	548747	533167	-	-
Chief Engineer, Mechanical	530098	535530	-	-
Relief Commissioner	548218	530602	–	–
V.C (JDA/SDA)	530500	530750	452132	453292
Administrator, Municipality	542192	561091	455046	433332
Director Education	544131	554398	455095	–
Principal Medical College	547647	542995	–	–
General Manger, Govt. Press.	547750	574219	452568	–
Director, Health	546338	543989	452052	452411
Dir. Food & Supplies	547996	531979	455019	430127
Dir. Rural Development	554443	531057	476371	432508

JUDICIARY

Chief Justice,				
Mr. Justice Bhawani Singh	547768	546186	455356	452185
Mr. justice A. M. Mir	547710 ,	544823	452442	452231
Mr. Justice A.Q.Paray	543286	546392	452452	431155
Mr. Justice T.S. Boabia	542757	544511	–	–
Mr. Justic R.C. Gandhi	543183	548750	–	–
Mr. Justice G.D. Sharma	547661	432405	–	–
Mr. Justice A.K. Goal	547698	548745	–	455611
Mr. Justice J.A. Kawoosa	543233	542255	455154	431074
Mr. Justice N. A. Kakru	543233	552827	452004	455606
Mr. Justice G.L. Raina	546798	432080	452279	477731
Mr. Justice O.P.Sharma	543266	430238	–	455674
Mr. Justice S.Bashir-ud-Din	–	–	450740	–
ADVOCATE GENERAL				
Mr.M.Aslam Goni	543417	-	455120	-
Exchange	543233	–	452278	–
Fax	542545	–	452280	–

MEDIA

Correspondents	**Jammu**	☎	**Srinagar**	☎
AIR	Ajit Singh	546658	Ajit Singh	452377
		543283 R	G.K.Malik	472686 R
Times of India	D.P.Sharma	431553	Altaf Hussain	452918
Hindustan Times	Arun Joshi	430909	Arun Joshi	452760
Indian Express	Arun Sharma	579099	Aasha Khosa	476770
				452661 R
Tribune	M.L.Kak	432272	Ehsan Fazili	452072
P.T.I.	M.K.Bangroo	543796	A.M.Sofi	452070
		549597 R		432058 R
U.N.I.	Mehboob Khan	549091	B..A..Sofi	452071
	R.S.Charkha	546242		433534 R
Hindu	O.N.Gangoo	554660	Shujaat Bukhari	434079
Reuter	Ashok Pahalwan	544343	Sheikh Mushtaq	476933
				471315 R
Pioneer	Binoo Joshi	433838	Rashid Ahmed	452824
AFP/Aaj Tak	Ashwani Kumar	435280	S.S.Oberoi	473598
Voice of America	--	--	Qaiser Mirza	430809
Nav Bharat Times	Shakeel Akhtar	554731	--	--
Hind Samachar	Gopal Sachar	544066	--	--
		450197 R	--	--
Jagran	Harbans Nagokey	431172	--	--
		435172 R	--	--
Jansatta	Manu Srivastav	543901	--	--
		545057 R		
Hindustan	Suresh Duggar	543026	--	--
National Herald/Quami Awaz	Shyam Koul	554831	--	--
Rashtriya Sahara	Vijay Malla	543138	Matji	--
Deccan Herald	J.N.Sathu	554652	--	--
Asian Age	--	--	Yousuf Jameel	473309 R
Telegraph CNN	--	--	Mukhtar Ahmed	452768 R
News Time	--	--	Nizam-ud-Din	476024
DPA	--	--	Imdad Saqi	452154
Blitz	--	--	Masood Hussain	452024
JNF	V.P.Khajuria	577269	--	--
NDTV	V. Choudhary	450802		452760
Saudi Gazette	--	--	M.D.Gilkar	478182
Bi TV	--	--	George Joseph	452661
PTI (Photographer)	Ruju Kemi	549177	--	--
		546103 R		
ANI --do--	Rajneesh Parihan	577528	Tariq Ahmed	473016
Siti Cable	Chauhan	450753	--	--
		435209 R		
India Today	--	--	Suresh Nandi	453190
Excelsior	Anil Sharma	547901	Ahmed Ali Fayaz	452666
		435602 R		
	Sanjiv Pargal	548475 R	--	--
Kashmir Times	O.N.Koul	543676	Zahoor Malik	452024
		543733	--	477301 R
	Prabodh Jamwal	462358 R		
Greater Kashmir	Anil Bhat	573761	Sheikh Zahoor	477782

RADIO / DOORDARSHAN

STATION DIRECTORS

Radio Kashmir	Dr. Ashok Jerath	547936 545099 R	Ashraf Sahil	452003 432041R
Doordarshan	Manzoor-ul-Haq	546541 433727 R	Siraj Qureshi	452018 452009 R

NEWS ROOMS

Radio Kashmir	M.Y.Ganai	546658 R 543081-Fax 434156 R	A.K.Handoo/	452019 452099 R
Doordarshan	M.K.Wangoo	572675	B.A.Malik 452206	 472686 R
	Shabir Ahmed	546357 544768 R	M.A.Tantry	470324 R

INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

Director	K.B.Jandial	544076 544643 Fax 431674 R	452437 452294 Fax -452227 452175 R
Dy.Director (PR)	A.M.Bhat A.G.Rather B.A.Bhat M.A.Darvesh	578835	479498

PROVINCIAL OFFICERS

Jt. Director/Dy.Director (PR)	Narinder Singh	542762 433558	F. A. Renzu	452229 461237 R
Deputy Director (PR)	S.A.Shah	548165 548867 R	M.Y.Khan	452230 479894 R
Field Pub. Officer	G.D.Singh	547487	Syed Ali	479817
Cultural Officer	D.R.Nanda	–	Syed Ali	430862

KASHMIR BUREAUX OF INFORMATION

Dy. Director.KBI.New Delhi	Mr. Mohd Amin	4611217/4615999 R
Dy.Director. KBI.Jullandar	Mr. S.L.Saraf	58107

EDITORS OF LEADING LOCAL DAILIES

		☎			☎
Excelsior	S.D.Rohmetra	547055	Daily Aftab	S.U.Bhat	452039
		547901	Daily Alsafa	A. Shaban	452043
		547831	Srinagar Times	G.M.Sofi	452420
Kashmir Times	Ved Bhasin	542028	Greater Kashmir	F.A.Kaloo	477782
			Mirror	G.H.Kaloo	452831
Danik Kashmir Times	Ved Bhasin	543676	Nidia-i-Mashriq	A.R.Shah	452471
		543733			–
Indian Express	Vipin Pubby	579099	Uqab	Manzoor Anjum	476004
		579277	Daily Afaaq	Ghulam Jeelani	452028
Himalayan Mail	Sneh Gupta	453913	Subah Kashmir	N.A.Wani	478458
State Times	Raj Daluja	573691	Kashmir Observer	Sajad Hyder	453768
Sandesh	Imrana Samnani	542037			
Taskeen	M.M.Kazmi	543336	–	–	–

J & K OFFICES STATIONED AT DELHI

	☎
Mr. S.S.Sahni,	4611506
Resident Commissioner	PBX-4611108 / 4611210
Mr.Mohammad Amin,	
Deputy Director Information	4611217 / 4615999 - R
Secretary Residence Commission	4611157 / 3387471 - R
Dy. Director Tourism	3345373
General Manager Agro-Industries	7182127 / 7188031 / 5581355 - R
Liaison Officer, J&K Industries	3363772 / 6043300 - R
General Manager Horticulture Corp.	7244408 / 7217758 / 2914719 - R
Marketing Manager, Handloom	4618055 / 4618251 - R
Emporium (C.P)	3364723
SIDCO	6441123 / 6992768 - R
Liaison Officer, SRTC, New Delhi	3324511 / Extn. 275
Tourism Development Corporation	4670505
Mr. Ghulam Rasool Area Marketing Officer(Delhi)	7211257 / 5459320 - R
General Manager, Handicrafts	4611210 / 4611096
Manager, J&K Bank, Delhi	3363020
Chankayapuri Guest House	602063-66

DISTRICT	CIVIL ☎			POLICE ☎			CONTROL ROOM ☎
		Office	Res.		Office /	Resi.	
Jammu	Div.Com.	544665 /	546886	IGP	544332 /	433280	100/542001/544581/577682
				DIG	546568 /	434890	
	D.C	546223 /	545670	SSP	547807 /	554300	
Kathua	D.C	34007 /	34006	SP	34010 /	34011	34311
Rajouri	D.C	6244 /	6242	DIG	6480 /	6249	6515
				SP	6240 /	6236	
Poonch	D.C	4333 /	4347	SP	4408	4399	4258
Udhampur	D.C	70212 /	70222	SSP	70210 /	70202	309 (EP.ABX)
Doda	D.C.	33230 /	33229	SP	33396 /	33224	33530
Srinagar	Div.Comm.	452643/	452118	IG	452135 /	455846	100/452098/452138
	D.C	452182 /	452223	DIG	455064	452707	
				SSP	455047	432462	
Budgam	D.C	5203	55204	SP	55240	55241	55207
Anantnag	D.C	22337	22335	DIG	22661	22136	22870
				SP	22836	22411	
Pulwama	D.C	41243	41234	SP	41237	41238	41221
Baramulla	D.C	34210	34005	DIG	34771	34394	34410
				SSP	34217	3421	

Members of Parliament

	Residence	☎
Vaid Vaishnu Dutt	Guest House Chankayapuri, New Delhi	602063-66
C.L.Gupta	6-Mahadev Road, New Delhi	–
Umer Abdullah	C-1/29 Pandara Park, New Delhi	3384357 / 3384037
Saif-ud-Din Soz	7-Tughlaq Road, New Delhi	3015150
Mufti Mohammad Syed	9-Tughlaq Lane, New Delhi	3013932
Aga Syed Hassain,	–	–

NOMINATED

Ghulam Nabi Azad	6-Teen Murti Lane,New Delhi	3019080/3793692
Dr. Karan Singh	3-Nayaya Marg, New Delhi	6111744/6115291
Kushak Thicksay	Guest House Chankayapuri,New Delhi	602063-66
Sharief-ud-Din Shariq	–	3782116

POLICE

OFFICERS	**JAMMU ☎**			**SRINAGAR ☎**	
	Office	**Resi.**		**Office**	**Resi.**
Mr. Gurbachan Jagat, Director General	576187	542317		452196	452418
Mr. R. Tickoo, A.D.G.P.(C.I.D)	546133	430498		452165	452602
Mr.A.C.Chaturvedi, A.D.G.P(Prisons)	555666	430203		452736	450730
Mr. Gopal Sharma I.G.P., Headquarters	546487	435207		452306	479136
Mr. Rajan Bakshi I.G.P. Modernisation	546450	435207		450220	473145
Mr. Vijay Raman, I.G.P. Security	435565	–		471927	471893
Mr. Chand Meena, I.G.P. Home Guards	430831	433280		–	–
Mr. Kuldeep Khuda, I.G.P. Zone	544332	433280	Mr.P.S.Gill (Sgr.)	452135	455846
Mr. A.K.Bhan I.G. (Armed)	452690	431320		455133	452085
Mr. R.V.Raju, I.G.P. Crime & Railways	547988	433280		452812	–
Mr. Naveen Agarwal, Director (Telecommunication)	452148	–		–	–
Mr. M.A.Bhat, I.G. Traffic	540468	433280		455034	455035
D.I.G.(Administration)	547606	433280		452776	433280
D.I.G.(Personnel)	544858	433280		452190	433280
D.I.G.(Traffic)	545730	433280		–	–
D.I.G.Jammu	546508	434890	D.I.G.Kashmir	455064	452707
S.S.P Mr. A.K.Gupta	547807	433280	Mr.A.A.Khan	455047	433280
Police Control Room	577682	–		452098	–
	544581	–		452138	–
	542001	–		–	–
	547621	–		455110	–
Police Exchange	547622	–		455111	–
	547623	–		452091	–
	547624	–		-	

IAS OFFICERS OF J&K CADRE

S.No.	Name	Allotment Year	Date of Birth	Posting
1.	Mr. Ashok Jaitly	1964	22.01.1942	Chief Secretary, J&K State.
2.	H.H.Tyabji	1965	22.06.1941	Chairman , PSC.
3.	Mr. Ashok Kumar	1965	12.12.1940	Advisor Planning Commission, New Delhi.
4..	Mr. Moti Lal Koul	1966	28.02.1942	Director General, IMPA.
5.	Mr. Mehmood-ur-Rehman	1966	06.07.1942	Vice Chancellor, A.M.U, Aligarh.
6.	Mr. I. S. Malhi	1966	04.10.1942	Financial Commr. Agri. & Rural Development.
7.	Mr. K.B. Pillai	1967	21.5.1944	Chairman & MD MEPC Ministry of Commerce.
8.	Mr. Udipta Ghosh	1967	15.3.1945	Financial Commissioner Co-ord.J&K,New Delhi
9.	Mr. Jalil Ahmad Khan	1967	2.7.1943	Addl. Chief Secretary, Planning.
10.	Mr. Wajahat Habibullah	1968	30.9.1945	Minister (Personnel), Indian Embassy, USA.
11.	Mr. H. L. Kadulbaju	1968	15.8.1943	Dev. Commissioner Kandla Free Trade Zoon Kandla.
12.	Mr. Sukhdev Singh	1968	23.8.1945	Addl. Chief Sect, Transport
13.	Mr. S. S. Blowria	1968	3. 09.1945	Jt.Secy. Govt.of India, J&K Affairs,New Delhi.
14.	Mr. M.S. Pandit	1969	15.1.1945	Addl. Chief Secretary. Finance
15	Ms. Sushma Choudary	1969	16.3.1945	Financial Commissioner Revenue,J&K,Govt.
16.	Mr. Ajit Kumar	1970	3.12.1947	Addl. Chief Secy. Finance.
17.	Mr. Amit Kushari	1970	11.9.1947	Chairman Spl. Tribunal
18.	Mr.Vijay Bakaya	1970	3.3.1946	Addl.Chief Secy.Forest
19.	Mr. S.L. Sailova	1970	1.2.1941	Addl. Chief Secy. Power Development Department
20.	Mr.S.B.Mathur	1971	5.1.1948	Chief Executive Officer, Archaeological Survey of India.
21.	Mr. N.R.Gupta	1971	17.6.1944	OSD, GAD
22.	Mr. B.R.Singh	1971	25.01.1948	Principal Secy. to CM. ACS, H & P/Civil Aviation
23	Mr. G.D.Wadhwa	1972	27.11.1947	Commr./Secy., Health and Family Welfare
24.	Mr. C.Phunsog	1972	15.10.1947	Commr./Secy. Home
25.	Mr. B.R.Kundal	1972	11.2.1949	Comm.Secy. Medical Education.
26.	Mr. Ananta Krishna Sahasranaman.	1973	18.3.1948	National Manager Programme UNDP.
27	Mr. S.Bhave	1973	8.10.1948	Chief Electoral officer J&K

28.	Mr. S.S. Sahni	1971	29.12.1950	Resident Commissioner J&K, New Delhi.
29.	Mr. S.M. Desalphine	1974	3.5.1948	Commr. of Vigilance J&K
30.	Mr. S.S. Kapoor	1974	15.1.1951	Commr.Secy Higher Education
31.	Mr. C.K. Ramachandran	1975	8.12.1948	Controller D/O/ NACE on deputation to GOI
32.	Mr. A.S. Sidhu	1975	24.8.1947	Commissioner Enquiries
33.	Mr. S.L. Bhat	1976	1.1.1950	Div. Commissioner, Kashmir
34.	Mr. Samuel Verghese	1976	19.2.1951	Central Deputation
35.	Mr. Madhav Lal	1977	4.6.1955	Member,N.H.Authority, Ministry of Transport.
36.	Mr. Parvez Dewan	1977	13.10.1954	Commr./Secy. Tourism
37.	Mr. B. L. Nimesh	1977	24.7.1949	Commr./Secy. R & B
38.	Mr. Anil Goswami	1978	14.1.1955	Chief Executive Officer Mata Shri Vaishnodevi Ji Shrine Board
39.	Mr. Pankaj Jain	1978	2.9.1954	Commr./Secy. Housing and Urban Development
40.	Mr. M.I. Khandey	1978	15.11.1955	Sales Tax Commissioner.
41.	Mr. Arun Kumar	1979	15.12.1956	INTNL Affairs Economics
42.	Ms. Sonali Kumar	1979	6.11.1955	Director D/O Edu.,New Delhi.
43.	Ms. Vijay Kotwal	1979	31.7.1941	Commr. Secy. Information, Sciences and Technology.
44.	Mr. M. A. Ganai	1979	7.8.1943	Commr.Secy. Revenue
45.	Mr. P. L. Raina	1979	27.12.1942	Commr./Secy., School Education
46.	Mr. B.S. Jaswal	1979	6.6.1943	Div. Commissioner, Jammu
47.	Mr. H. H. Beg	1979	23.8.1943	Member J&K Special Tribunal.
48.	Mr. P.G. Dhar Chakraborty	1980	14.10.1953	Central deputation.
49.	Mr. R. K. Jerath	1980	22.4.1952	Commr. Secy. Food Supplies
50.	Mr. A.K. Angurana	1980	20.4.1956	Commr. Secy. Social Welfare Deptt,
51.	Mr. A.R. Parray	1980	22.5.1943	Commr.Secy. GAD.
52.	Mr. K. S. Salathia	1980	9.8.1942	Member Special Tribunal
53.	Mr. K. A. Ganai	1982	20.10.1955	Foreign Training
54.	Mr. Brij Raj Sharma	1984	27.4.1960	M.D, JKI Ltd.
55.	Mr. K. B. Agarwal	1985	14.1.1959	Secy. ARI, Emp. and Labour
56.	Mr. P. K. Jain	1985	15.1.1958	Foreign Training.
57.	Mr. B. B Vyas	1986	15.11.1957	Secy. to Governor.
58.	Mr. Rakesh Kumar Gupta.	1986	2.2.1960	Secy Planning
59.	Mr. Lokesh Dutta Jha	1986	30.6.1959	Central deputation
60.	Mr. Suresh Kumar	1986	27.5.1959	Visiting Fellow IMPA
61.	Mr. G. N. Ahanger	1986	17.2.1942	Registrar, Coop. Societies.
62.	Mr. S. R. Kapoor	1986	2.12.1942	Secy. Rural Development
63.	Mr. Chaman Lal	1986	6.11.1943	D.C. Kathua
64.	Mr. M. S. Jamwal	1986	8.3.1943	Spl. Secy. Home Department.
65	Mr. Mohammad Amin Khan.	1986	23.3.1941	Secy.Human Rights Commission
66	Mr. P. K. Tripathi	1987	18.6.1964	Dy.Commr. Jammu
67.	Mr. Sudhanshu Panday	1987	8.10.1962	Director Employment
68.	Mr. Sandeep Kumar Nayak	1988	22.7.1963	Dy. Director LOSNAA
69.	Mr. Arun Kumar Mehta	1988	1.12.1963	Central deputation
70.	Mr. Atul Dullo	1989	24.10.1966	D. C. Baramulla.
71.	Mr. Umang Narula	1989	14.6.1965	Dy. Commr. Anantnag.
72.	Mr. Abdul Salam Bhat	1989	13.4.1943	Excise Commissioner

73.	Mr. R. K. Goyal	1990	10.8.1965	Director Education
74.	Mr. Mohammad Ashraf	1990	25.8.1943	D.G. Tourism
75.	Mr. K. A. Malik	1990	17.4.1946	Addl. Secy. Forest
76.	Mr Shafiq Ahmed Masoodi	1990	5.5. 1943	Settle Commissioner
77.	Mr Mumtaz Afzal	1990	13.3. 1945	On Dep. to F.C.I.
78.	Mr Abdul Rashid Mubarki	1990	3. 6. 1943	Labour Commissioner
79.	Mr Shant Manu	1991	28. 12. 1965	Addl. Secy. PDD
80.	Mr Najamus Saqib	1991	13. 11. 1946	Awaiting posting orders
81	Mr Basharat Ahmed Dar	1991	25.12. 1950	Dy. Commissioner, Leh
82.	Mr M. A. Qureshi	1991	25. 1. 1943	Addl. Secy.H& P.
83.	Mr Harbajan Singh	1991	15.5. 1945	Secy. P. S. C.
84.	Mr Mohammad Yehya Teli	1991	3. 9. 1943	Dir.Local Bodies,Kmr.
85.	Mr Saif-ud-Din Lone	1991	15.7. 1942	M.D,SC/ST/ Dev.Corp.
86.	Mr Devinder Nargotra	1991	21. 10. 1948	Dy. Commissioner, Doda.
87.	Mr S. S. Jamwal	1991	20.2. 1941	Dir. Food Supplies, Jammu.
88.	Mr Mohammad Manzoor Bhat	1991	22.6. 1946	Dir. Food Supplies, Kmr.
89.	Mr Sham Lal	1991	8.3. 1946	Administrator, Jammu Municipality.
90.	Mr M. C. Verma	1991	20. 4. 1941	Director Stationery.
91.	Dr. R. K. Kotru	1991	23. 8. 1947	Director Industries.
92.	Mr Saleen Kabra	1992	12.7. 1968	Dy. Commissioner, Kargil.
93.	Mr Bipul Pathak	1992	23. 2. 1969	Addl. D.C. Pulwama.
94.	Mr. Ashok Kumar Parmar	1992	30. 7. 1964	Addl. D. C., Srinagar.
95.	Mr Feroz Ahmed	1992	1. 11. 1945	Dir.Rural Dev.Kashmir.
96.	Mr. Dheeraj Gupta	1993	5. 8. 1967	Addl. Dy.Commr.Budgam.
97.	Mr Asgar Hassan Samoon	1993	17. 6. 1963	Addl. D.C. Anantnag.
98.	Mr.Navin Kumar Choudhary	1994	25. 8. 1969	Addl.D.C.Jammu.
99.	Mr Pawan Kotwal	1994	4. 12. 1965	Addl.D.C.Udhampur.
100.	Mr Rohit Kansal	1995	28.7.1969	S.D.M. Reasi.
101.	Mr Shailendra Kumar	1995	8.10. 1969	S.D.M Bhaderwah

IPS Officers of J&K Cadre

S.No.	Name	Date of Birth	Year of Allotment	Present Post Held
1.	M.N.Sabharwal	01-09-1941	1964	Central deputation.
2.	Veeranna Aivalli	18-05-1943	1966	Chairman, BPE
3.	S.S.Ali	12-03-1943	1967	D.G, Sports
4.	A.K. Suri	05-01-1947	1969	Transport Commissioner.
5.	O.P. Bhaskar	10.08-1940	1969	OSD PHQ
6.	Anajan Ghosh	13-04-1949	1970	Central deputation.
7.	Rajinder Tikoo	01-05-1949	1970	ADGP CID
8.	A.C. Chaturvedi	15-08-1945	1970	ADG, Prisons
9.	M.K.Mohanty	14-12-1949	1971	On central deputation.
10.	Rajan Bakshi	08-05-1948	1972	IGP Modernisation
11.	Gopal Sharma	05-11-1948	1972	IGP Headquarters
12.	Sri Chand Mina	13-09-1942	1972	IGP Homeguards
13.	P.S.Gill	19-09-1951	1974	IGP Kashmir
14.	Kuldeep Khuda	28-05-1952	1974	IGP Jammu
15.	R.V.Raju	27-07-1949	1975	IG Crime & Railways
16.	Madan Lal	25-05-1947	1975	M.D J&K PHQs
17.	A.K.Bhan	01-04-1950	1976	IGP Armed Police
18.	K. Illango	04-02-1959	1982	On Central deputation.
19.	C.L.Banal	20-09-1947	1978	Director Civil-Military Liaison
20.	Mohd Shafi Wani	28-02-1942	1978	IGP Human Rights
21.	Masood Choudhary	10-04-1944	1978	Director S.K.P.A Udhampur.
22.	Mohd Ashraf Bhat	19-08-1941	1983	IG Traffic
23.	K.Rajinder Kumar	24-09-1956	1984	DIG Rajouri-Poonch
24.	P.L.Gupta	04-08-1955	1984	DIG Srinagar.
25.	S.Gopal Reddy	20-10-1956	1985	DIG Vigilance.
26.	S.K.Misra	28-02-1959	1985	DIG Jammu.
27.	Ram Lubhaya	23-03-1953	1985	DIG Udhampur-Doda
28.	Ratinder Koul	13-04-1942	1985	DIG Traffic
29.	S.S.Oberoi	16-05-1943	1985	DIG Armed Police Kashmir.
30.	D.K.Kapoor	16-10-1940	1985	DIG Armed Police Jammu.
31.	D.J.Ganjoo	22.01.1941	1985	DIG Armed Police Jammu
32.	S.S.Bijral	01.08.1946	1985	DIG SSG
33.	Mirza Hamid Iqbal	25-12-1940	1985	DIG(P) PHQ.
34.	P.R.Gandotra	13-03-1943	1985	DIG CID Jammu.
35.	A.R.Khan	05-03-1947	1985	DIG Rajouri.
36.	S.P.Vaid	30-10-1959	1986	DIG Baramulla.
37.	Mrs.D.R.Doley	27-05-1959	1986	Central deputation.
38.	Navin Agarwal	04-07-1961	1986	Director Telecom.
39.	P.K.Gupta	06-12-1945	1986	DIG Security.
40.	J.A.Makhdoomi	03-01-1948	1986	DIG CID
41.	V.K.Singh	15-09-1961	1987	Central deputation

42.	S.M.Sahai	14-03-1963	1987	Att.with Crime Hqrs.
43.	Dilbagh Singh	10-10-1963	1987	Comdt.JKAP 7th Bn.
44.	Aijaz Alam Khan	14-12-1952	1987	SSP Srinagar.
45.	S.C.Sharma	25-03-1942	1987	Spl. Officer to IG, Jammu.
46.	S.Owais Ahmad	26-06-1955	1987	Commandant 8 Bn. JKAP.
47.	A.K.Gupta	02-02-1952	1987	SSP Jammu.
48.	M.Amin Shah	12-02-1952	1988	SP Crime Srinagar.
49.	Z.H.Chisti	05-05-1952	1988	Comdt. Axp. 1st B.N.
50.	Laltendu Mohanti	15-07-1963	1989	On Central deputation.
51.	B. Srinivas	01-08-1964	1990	Comdt. IRP 3rd B N.
52.	A.K.Choudhary	16-08-1964	1991	SP Udhampur.
53.	R.R. Swain	18-09-1964	1991	SP Poonch.
54.	H.K. Loia	17-01-1965	1992	SP Rajouri.
55.	Pankaj Saxena	12-11-1967	1993	SP Leh.
56.	Deepak Kumar	26-05-1969	1993	SP Kargil.
57.	S.Javaid Mujtaba	16-09-1971	1994	SP East. Srinagar
58.	Khalid Durrani	24-04-1942	NA	Comdt.JKAP 5th Bn.
59	Rattan Lal Raina	02-02-1940	NA	SO to IGP Jammu.
60.	Ravinder Kotwal	02-05-1951	NA	Comndt. 2 Bn. Exl. Police
61.	M.A.Anjum	19-08-1951	NA	SP SSG.
62.	M.Amin Bhat	01-12-1951	NA	SP CID SB(J).
63.	Farooq Ahmad	05-02-1949	NA	AIG(P) PHQ.
64.	Rashid Ahmad Dar	24-01-1944	NA	S.P.Control Room Sgr.
65.	Satvir Gupta	08-01-1946	NA	Comdt. IRP 4th Bn.
66.	Niyaz Mehmood	26-06-1949	NA	SP Security.
67.	Mrs.Shikha Goel	07-03-1969	1994	Addl. SP. Crime & Railways
68.	Saji Mohan	24-07-1967	1995	SDPO Ganderbal.
69.	Pankaj Kumar	21-11-1969	1995	SDPO Ramban.
70.	S.D.Singh	03-05-1969	1995	SDPO Saddar.
71.	Rajesh Kumar	21-03-1970	1995	SDPO Handwara.
72.	S.Shiramaji	01-07-1971	1995	SDPO Mendhar.
73.	Tsewang Namgiyal	05-10-1970	1995	SDPO Bari-Brahmana
74.	Mukesh Singh	24-10-1971	1996	U/Training.
75.	M.K.Sinha	31-08-1970	1996	U/Training.
76.	Mrs.Ritu Mishra	25-06-1969	1996	U/Training.
77.	N.S.Avhad	23-02-1972	1996	U/Training.
78.	Sunil Kumar	15-10-1964	1996	U/Training.
79.	Danesh Rana	21-02-1969	1996	U/Training.

HELP LINES

Jammu	☎	**Srinagar**	☎
Fire	101/544263	Fire	101/452222
Police	100/542001	Police	100/452131
Hospitals		**Hospitals**	
Medical College	549621/547991 E	Medical Institute	422629
SMGS	547637/549669	Lalded	452518
Chest Disease	577064 -	SMHS	452013
Dental Hospital	544670 -	Bone & Joint	430149
Gandhi Nagar	430041/431740		
EXCHANGES			
Police	547621/547622	Police	455110/455111
Army	435840-42	Army	452310/452312
BSF	549095/547649	BSF	742703/430481
CRPF	592071/592297	CRPF	461279-80
Air Force	547646-49	Air Force	432073-76
Sectt.		Sectt.	452283-86
Forest	548397	Forest	459621-23
Airport	450820/431047	Airport	431521-22
RAILWAY			
Station Manager	431052		
Enquiry	131,132,431085		
Reservation	431582		
AIRLINES	430499/431433		452328
City Office	546086		431094
JET AIRWAYS	453888/453999		455055
City Office	574312/574315		
MLA Hostel	572191/572291		477501-02
Jammu University	435259/435248	Kashmir University	452078

Legislators

MLAs	Present Address		Telephones	
	Jammu	Srinagar	Jammu	Srinagar
Kafeel-ul-Rehman,	403	207(R.Nos)	–	–
Tangdar,Kupwara	MLA Hostels		–	–
Saif-ullah Mir,	40-G-Poonch House.		–	–
Shumnag,Kupwara	Jammu.		–	–
Abdul Ahad Wani,	215-Wazarat Rd.,Jammu		–	–
Qalamchakla, Handwara.	415, MLA Hostal,Srinagar		–	–
Mohammad Dilawar Mir,	–	–	–	–
Rafiabad, Baramulla	–	–	–	432663
Faqir Mohammad Khan,	409	208	–	–
Gujran Telial,Gurez.	MLA, Hostels		–	–
Ghulam Rasool Mir(Naz),	266-Bandipora		–	–
Bandipora, Baramulla	–	–	–	–
Mohammad Yousuf Parray,	Guest House 2,Srinagar		–	–
Hajan, Sonawari.	R.No.165		–	592090
Mohammad Maqbool Lone,	R.No.318,MLA Hostel, Srinagar		–	–
Seerjagir,Sopore	–	–	–	–
Mujahid Mohammad Abdullah	302	201	–	–
Baramulla.	MLA Hostels		–	–
Mohammad Sayeed Akhoon,	5-Gupkar Road, Srinagar		–	452598
Rang Paristhan. Srinagar.	–	–	–	–
Sadiq Ali,	Hassanabad, Srinagar		–	471572
Hassanabad,Srinagar	–	–	–	–
Muabarik Ahmad Gul,	Shah Mohalla, Nawabazar,		–	432277
Srinagar	Srinagar. –		–	–
Mohammad Shafi Bhat,	Patikurso Rajbagh, Srinagar		–	431367
Srinagar	–	–	–	–

Ghulam Mohammad Bawan,	T-11, Tulsi Bagh, Srinagar.		--	430685
Srinagar.	--	--	--	--
Ali Mohammad	MLA Hostel, Srinagar,		--	--
Chadoora, Budgam.	R.No.330.		--	--
Syed Ghulam Hussain Geelani,	401	312	--	--
Hyderpora, Budgam.	MLA, Hostels		--	--
Abdul Gani Naseem,	--	--	--	--
Faleshil, Budgam.	--	--	--	--
Ghulam Mohi-ud-Din Mir,	105	40 Z	--	--
Murran, Pulwama.	MLA Hostels		--	--
Mohammad Jabbar Mir	235	210	--	--
Zainapura, Shopian	MLA Hostels		--	--
Mohammad Yousuf,	20-T, Tulsibagh,Sgr.		--	--
Tarigam, Kulgam	12-A,Gandhinagar,Jammu		--	430611
Gul Mohammad Rafiqi,	110	201	--	--
Mohalla Chekdan,Anantnag	MLA Hostels		--	--
Ghulam Hassan Wani,	--	--	--	--
Dooru, Anantnag	--	--	--	--
Abdul Majeed,	202	307	--	--
Sahibabad, Achalbal	MLA Hostels		--	--
Mehbooba Mufti,	--	--	431954	--
Bijbehara, Anantnag.	--	--	431024	--
Abdul Kabir Bhat,	134-W,Poonch House, Jammu		552438	--
Pahalgam,Kashmir.	5-17 MLA Hostel, Srinagar		--	--
Charing Dorjoy,	--	--	--	--
Chubi, Leh Ladakh.	--	--	--	--
Mohammad Abbass,	406	105	--	--
Thakskhangrong, Kargil.	MLA Hostels		--	--
Jalal-ud-Din Qazi,	241-J	--	546395	--
Kishtwar, Doda.	--	--	--	--

Khalid Najeeb Soharwardy,	--	--	33376	–
Doda, Jammu.	--	--	23696	–
Sheikh Abdul Rehman,	108-Wazarat Road,Jammu		543613	–
108-Wazarat Road,Jammu.	--	--	--	--
Bali Bhagat,	MLA Hostel, Jammu		–	–
Upper Bazar, Ramban,Doda.	–	–	–	–
Mohammad Farooq Mir,	--	--	--	--
Banihal, Doda.	--	--	--	--
Abdul Ghani Malik,	–	–	–	–
Sarh, Udhampur.	--	--	--	--
Jagjivan Lal,	--	--	8404	--
Bhangal, Udhampur.	--	--	--	--
Abdul Wahid Shan,	102	–	–	–
Gool, Udhampur.	MLA Hostel, Jammu		–	–
Shiv Charan Gupta,	–	--	70390	–
Ward No.9,Udhampur.	–	–	1162	–
Prithvi Chand,	320	–	–	–
Basantgarh, Udhmpur.	MLA Hostel, Jammu		–	–
Harsh Dev Singh,	27-B	–	–	–
Court Road, Udhampur.	Govt.Quarter,Gandhinagar,Jammu		–	–
Lal Singh,	–	–	433070	–
Ward No.2, Kathua.	–	–	–	–
Sagar Chand,	–	–	–	–
Padyari, Kathua.	–	–	–	–
Balbir Singh,	28 B/C	–	–	–
Rampur,Billawar,Kathua.	Gandhinagar,Jammu		–	–
Prem Lal,	–	–	4270	–
Hiranagar, Kathua.	–	–	–	–
Som Nath,	–	–	–	–
Badwani, Samba,Kathua.	–	–	–	–

Ch.Piara Singh, 737-A, Gandhinagar, Jammu.	– –	– –	431933 435442	– –
Ashok Kumar Khajuria, Kachi Chawni, Jammu.	– –	– –	543900 –	– –
Hans Raj Dogra, Gandhinagar, Jammu.	– –	– –	450856 433978	– –
Jagdish Raj Dubey, Ward No.3,Bishnah, Jammu.	– –	– –	– –	– –
Ram Chand, Ward No.9,R.S.Pura,Jammu.	– –	– –	– –	– –
Chuni Lal, Hansa, R.S.Pura, Jammu.	– –	– –	50365 –	– –
Sat Pal Lakhotra, Chak Lal Din, Jammu.	– –	– –	– –	– –
Tara Chand, Chak Malal, Akhnoor, Jammu.	– –	– –	– –	– –
Radhey Sham Sharma, Ward No.6,Nowshera, Rajouri.	80-A Subash Nagar, Jammu	–	– –	– –
Ch.Mohammad Hussain, Panjnara, Koteranka	106-J MLA Hostel	–	Darhal-33 –	– –
Ashok Kumar Sharma, Panjali, Kalakote,Rajouri.	– –	– –	578597 –	– –
Mushtaq Ahmed Shah, Pamrote, Surankote,Rajouri.	– –	– –	479005 434379	– –
Ghulam Mohammad Jan, Ward No.2, Poonch.	– –	– –	Poonch-4326 –	– –
Bimla Luthra, 74-B/C,Lakhdatta Bazar,Jammu.	– –	– –	– –	– –
Zubida Salaria, 201-Dalapatian, Jammu.	– –	– –	– –	– –

MLCs

Ram Paul	–	–	–	–
H.No.345,Rehari Nallah,Jammu	–	–	–	–
Haji Buland Khan	–	–	–	–
B.E.85-Jewan Shah,				
Shaheedi Chow,Jammu	–	–	–	–
Vir Chand Mahasha	–	–	–	–
Bodhori, Jammu	–	–	–	–
Prof.Y.R.Malhotra	–	–	–	–
6-D.C,Gandhinagar,Jammu	–	–	–	–
H.S.Bali, Dy.Chairman	–	–	541820	474088
16-BB, Gandhinagar,Jammu	–	–	431664	–
S.M.Gill	–	–	572259	–
69, Krishan Colony, Jammu	–	–	–	–
Maj.Gen.G.S.Jamwal(Retd)	–	–	441901	–
6-CC, Gandhinagar,Jammu	–	–	–	–
Dr.Naseer Ahmed Shah	Gandhinagar,Jammu		61296	61396
Nishat,Srinagar	–	Nishat Srinagar.	–	–
Dhan Raj Bargotra	–	–	554125	–
31-Rughnath Bazar,Jammu	–	–	548041	–
Abdul Rashid Dar	–	–	–	–
Ulbagh,Nawgam,Kashmir	–	–	–	–
Haji Mohammad Sultan Mir	–	–	–	–
Hathmullah, Kupwara	–	–	–	–
Chuni Lal Khajuria	–	–	572595	–
Ward No.1,Udhampur	–	–	–	–
Harbans Singh	–	–	431803	–
34-B/B,Gandhinagar,Jammu	–	–	432054	–
Rahim Dad	–	–	26139	–
Bhatidhar,Mendhar, Poonch	–	–	–	–

Abdul Aziz	–	–	–	–
Madna, Kishtwar,Doda	–	–	–	–
Aziz Mohammad Qari	Pandras,Drass,Kargil		–	–
Village Pandras,Drass,Kargil	–	–	–	–
Ghulam Nabi Shaheen	Nawab Bazar,Srinagar		572786	477502
Nawab Bazar, Srinagar	–	–	–	–
Mohammad Aslam	Salamabad,Baramulla		–	–
Salamabad, Baramulla	–	–	–	–
Firdous Syeed	EP-87,Gogi Gate,Jammu		432136	–
EP-87,Gogi Gate,Jammu	–	–	543867	–
Ch.Mohammad Hussain	Bai Bajaita,Samba,Jammu		543709	–
Bai Bajalta, Samba,Jammu	–	–	–	–
Mohammad Sadiq Malik	B/C-16 Dalpatian,Jammu		577271	–
B/C-16, Mohalla,Dalpatian,Jammu	–	–	–	–
Daya Krishan Kotwal	Udrana,Bhaderwah,Doda		542753	–
Udrana, The.Bhaderwah,Doda	–	–	4206	–
Gulchain Singh Charak	Shastri Nagar,Jammu		454545	–
Charak Niwas,Shastri Nagar,Jammu	–	–	430334	–
Bushan Lal Bhat	Bijbehara, Anantnag		–	592334
ssBijbehara, Anantnag	–	–	–	–
Javid Hussain Shah	Nadihal,Bandipore,Kashmir		542857	–
Nadihal,Bandipore,Kashmir	–	–	–	–
Abdul Gani Veeri	297-EP,Wazarat Road,Jammu		542899	–
Qtr. No.297,Wazarat Road,Jammu	–	–	–	–
Abdul Rehman	H-74,Poonch House,Talab Tilloo,		–	476189
H-74,Poonch House,Talab Tilloo Jammu.	Jammu.	–	–	–

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